

THE TIMES
1785-1985
Tomorrow

Daredevils
Sports on the edge of danger

Oriental journey
Tranquil taste of green tea in China

Familiar face
Tom Courtenay returns to the small screen

Fifteen a side
Weekend rugby preview and the John Player Cup

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition prize of £2,000 was won yesterday by Mr Thomas MacGregor of North Berwick, East Lothian. Portfolio List, page 18; how to play, information service, back page. Tomorrow £22,000 can be won - £20,000 in the weekly competition and £2,000 in the daily.

Labour move on school pay

Labour members of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities' education committee have put forward a controversial initiative to try to solve the teachers' pay dispute. It will involve a joint approach with the unions to press the Government for more money.

Sir Keith Joseph, writing in today's seventy-fifth anniversary issue of *The Times Educational Supplement*, criticises teachers' union leaders and says that "continued disruption of schools is both wrong and pointless". Page 2

US rebuke for the French

The US has for the first time deplored the sinking of the Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior, as France and New Zealand agreed to form a joint panel of experts to improve diplomatic relations.

Fabius failure, page 5

Dollar rebounds

The dollar rebounded upwards against other currencies in New York last night, gaining two cents against the pound to \$1.4220 and reversing the earlier advance of sterling in London.

Train crash

Forty-one people were taken to hospital and five were kept in an Ayr-Glasgow passenger train hit a stationary goods train near Paisley.

£1m Aids boost

The Government is doubling its spending on the fight against Aids with the immediate allocation of almost £1 million, mostly to improve the care of patients.

Page 3

Sea ban stays

The ban on dumping radioactive waste into the sea is to continue indefinitely, the London Dumping Convention decided. Britain had hoped to resume the practice.

Rebel success

Uganda rebels claimed last night to have captured the town of Masaka, 80 miles from Kampala after fierce fighting.

Peace talks, page 5

Woosnam wins

Ian Woosnam beat Joey Sindelar 4 and 2 in the Sunday world match-play golf championship at Wentworth and now plays Soverano Ballesteros. Page 22

Leader page, 13
Letters: On rules from Mr S. Fothergill and Ms S. Monk; child abuse, from Professor A. Allott
Leading articles: Lawson and Hattersley; Military Attachés; Privatizing Health
Features, pages 10-12 Stemming the import flow; the new New Left; hope for the UN
Spectrum: Prince Andrew, photographer royal
Obituary, page 14 Professor R. F. Peck, Brigadier Neville Cheshire

Home News	2-4	Law Report	4
Overseas	4-8	Motoring	25
Arts	14	Polytechnic	re
Business	15-21	Science	14
Chess	4	Sport	21-24
Court	14	TV & Radio	27
Crosswords	10, 28	Theatres, etc.	27
Diary	12	Weather	28
Events	28	Wills	14

Soviet anger blights hope for Reagan talks today

From Richard Owen, Moscow

On the eve of today's meeting between President Reagan and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, the Kremlin launched a scathing attack on the President for mounting a "see-bait" over the Soviet military threat to the West and chasing the "illusory goal" of military supremacy.

Mr Shevardnadze and Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, failed to break the impasse on arms control, including the contentious Star Wars issue, earlier this week.

Today's encounter should provide pointers to the superpower atmosphere in the run-up to the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in November. But Tass took a gloomy view yesterday, accusing Mr Reagan of conjuring facts about Russia's alleged military advantage out of thin air.

The US Joint Chiefs of Staff, Tass said, had acknowledged that a rough parity existed between Soviet and American nuclear forces, and even Mr Reagan's own statements on the subject were contradictory.

He was floating "fantastic myths" about Soviet superiority and the Soviet threat, yet when the President wanted to boast about his efforts to boost American military might he took the opposite line and claimed that the two great nuclear powers were equal.

● **WASHINGTON:** President Reagan spent yesterday in intensive preparations for today's crucial meeting. The Soviet Foreign Minister's expected offer of a strategic missile cut and his negotiating manner are important indications of what may be achieved in November (Michael Binyon writes).

Mr Robert McFarlane, the National Security Adviser, told the President on the four-hour meeting he and Mr Shultz shared with Mr Shevardnadze on Wednesday. US officials said the atmosphere then was good, misconceptions had been cleared up and both sides had listened carefully to each other.

The White House spokesman said the fact that no specific agreements were reached was not a disappointment to the Administration.

Petrol price cut may be on the way

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

A fall in petrol prices is now under consideration by the leading oil companies in the wake of sterling's rise against the dollar.

Shell cut its prices of fuel supplied to its industrial customers at midnight last night by an average of 2.37p a gallon. Industrial petrol prices are not affected, but the price cuts are a clear indication that the currency movements, which affect modern refinery costs could lead to a petrol price cut.

The Shell industrial fuel-price cuts are likely to be followed by its main competitors by the weekend, but the oil companies are claiming that the scope for petrol price cuts is limited.

The official price for four-star petrol is now 198.7p a gallon, but local price wars and promotional offers have sent prices in many areas below the 190p-a-gallon mark.

The oil companies are also concerned that the new price arrangements devised by the leading members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries will be based on the price of refined products.

Car crash victim awarded £434,090 for 'ruined life'

By Rupert Morris

A man was awarded £434,090 damages in the High Court in London yesterday for road crash injuries which changed his personality and wrecked his marriage. It was the largest sum awarded to a road accident victim in England and Wales.

Mr Justice Swinton Thomas allowed £42,500 for the cost of establishing two separate homes, and £10,500 for maintaining them.

Mr Vivian Pritchard, aged 39, a former technical officer at the Ministry of Defence, suffered severe brain damage after his car had been hit by a lorry at Swallowfield, Berkshire, in June 1976 that

from being a happy family man he became "callous, irritable and on occasion violent", the judge said.

"The results of those injuries have left his life in ruins. They have deprived him of his wife, to a large extent of his children, of his home and of his work."

Before the accident Mr Pritchard and his wife Mary Ann had enjoyed a happy marriage and an active social life.

She was pregnant at the time with twin daughters, Chloe and Sophie, now eight. The couple, who had married in 1969, have another daughter, Louise, now 16.

Flowers and kisses as expelled Russians fly home



Soviet officials and their families walking across the tarmac to their aircraft. (Photographs: Harry Kerr)

Spying allegations 'absolute rubbish'

By Patrick Clough

Still stoutly declaring their innocence, most of the 31 Russians expelled from Britain as spies left Gatwick airport yesterday for Moscow with their wives and children.

The party of 72 was driven to Gatwick in two coaches and waiting to check-in at the airport with their cabin luggage, trolleys, and children in arms, they looked like any other charter group.

The women carried bouquets and there were kisses and bear hugs for fellow Russians who had come to see them off. But a number of those who spoke to the press were trembling and evidently nervous at the unaccustomed exposure to cameras and reporters.

Members of the group said none of them had much to do with Mr Oleg Gordievsky, the London head of the KGB who defected and named the 25 diplomats, trade officials, businessmen and journalists, as KGB men. A further six were expelled in retaliation for the expulsion of 25 Britons from Moscow.

One Russian said: "We don't know much about him - and to

be honest we don't think much of him after what happened."

Mr Sergei Bolovits, a correspondent for the Novosti news agency, said: "The allegations were absolute rubbish."

Mr Yuri Elov, a first secretary at the Soviet Embassy, called the allegations "lies."

Mr Viktor Timofeyev, a Soviet trade delegation official, said: "Of course we are not spies. None of us has been arrested and nobody was caught. It is all a political game."

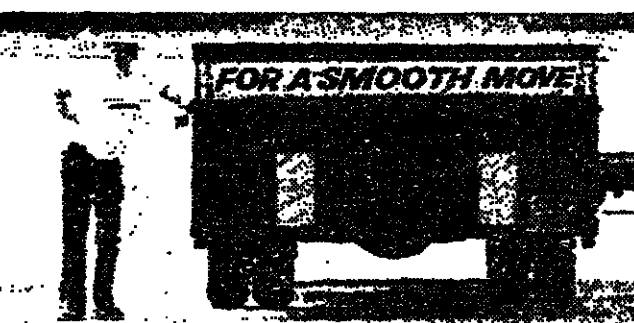
Another expelled Russian pointed to his two young children and joked: "Here are more dangerous spies."

Several said they were sad to leave Britain and the friends they had made. "I love this country and I love its people," Mr Timofeyev said. "My respect for Britain and the British people in spite of this dirty provocation will be the same."

Later, carrying yellow and white plastic bags from the airport shops they were taken by British Caledonian first class buses to gate 62 where a huge Illyushin 86 was waiting. There they walked, slightly self-consciously past a battery of television and press cameras to the aircraft.

At the head of the small group of Soviet officials who watched the aircraft leave on its three and a half flight was Mr Lev Parshin, the charge d'affaires at the Soviet Embassy throughout the spy crisis. He said that practically all those expelled were on board but did not say where the others were.

● **NBC television news** said on Wednesday night that Vitali Dzhurichenko, a high-ranking Soviet Intelligence official, defected to the West in Rome on July 24. But the US State Department refused to comment.



Luggage being loaded diplomatically

20,000 quake toll is feared by Mexicans

From John Carlin, Mexico City

Refuting all official statements, senior members of the Mexican Government were saying privately that the final death toll in the Mexican earthquake disaster would be between 12,000 as more people including a premature born baby were found alive in a flattened hospital yesterday.

Exactly seven days after the first of two earthquakes tore through the heart of Mexico City.

The Government of President Miguel de la Madrid originally put the numbers of dead in the hundreds and, more recently had conceded the figure could reach 5,000, "but no more."

The latest unofficial estimates of the dead tally with those made almost from the beginning by rescue workers and senior diplomats.

Early yesterday morning a woman patient, aged 28, and then a few hours later a nurse, were stretched out of the wreck of Juarez Hospital, a tomb for hundreds, and the most awesome, horrifying spectacle in the shattered centre of the Capital.

Then, at 7.50am rescuers brought out alive a tiny premature baby that inexplicably survived an entire week

buried under the rubble of the hospital. The baby was rushed to an incubator. Doctors expect it to live. An army major in charge of a 300-man rescue team at the site of the hospital said he expected a woman and two babies found alive in the rubble would be brought out later.

The Juarez Hospital, a 12-floor building, was reduced to the height of a three-storey block. It looks as if an enormous bomb had been placed under its foundations.

Up to 1,000 medical staff and patients are thought to be trapped, hope being held out now for only a tiny handful.

Cries for help from Miss Angela Mendez, aged 22, the nurse who was rescued yesterday, were first heard at noon the day before. A team of seven firemen from Miami and a small group of Mexican miners had to carve three tunnels through the crumbled edifice before finally making contact with her.

The rescue team had to pick up with hammers and chisels at concrete obstacles before the

Continued on back page, col 4

Incomes ahead of inflation

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

Real incomes in Britain rose strongly in the second quarter, according to official figures published yesterday. Wage and salary increases pushed incomes up by 2 per cent compared with the first quarter, and 3.5 per cent up on a year earlier.

Growth in incomes has kept well ahead of inflation, which peaked at 7 per cent in May and June. Wages and salaries in the second quarter were up 9 per cent on a year earlier, and total personal incomes rose 8 per cent, before allowing for inflation.

The extra income has gone partly into spending, up 1.9 per cent in the second quarter and partly into savings.

Company profits in the period remained at their high first-quarter level. A 15 per cent fall in North Sea oil profits was offset by an 8 per cent rise in profits for non-oil companies.

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State doubles spending on fight against Aids with £1m for patients

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The Government is to double its spending on the fight against the Aids (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) virus with the immediate allocation of almost £1 million. Most of that will be used to improve the care of patients.

Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister for Health, announced the new funding yesterday. It is the first of a series of measures against Aids to be taken in the next few months.

Mr Hayhoe said: "The Government fully understands public concern about Aids. This terrible disease is being tackled on a broad front and with the continuing co-operation of all concerned, particularly those in the at-risk groups."

"I am hopeful that together we will be able to control the spread of the infection and reduce the appalling suffering which accompanies the disease."

About 10,000 people may have been exposed to the Aids virus in Britain, but only a small proportion have so far developed the disease. By the end of August there were 206

confirmed cases; of those 114 had died.

Most of the new funding will go to help health authorities in London, where most Aids cases are located, for the treatment and care of patients and for counselling sufferers and their families.

The North East Thames, North West Thames and South East Thames regional health authorities will receive a total of £680,000.

Haemophiliacs, among whom there have been six Aids deaths, will receive £122,000, mostly towards counselling through reference centres and the Haemophilia Society. A public education campaign is to get £100,000.

The Terence Higgins Trust, named after the first Aids fatality in Britain, is given £10,000 towards counselling of homosexuals and others.

The screening of all blood donations for antibodies to the Aids virus will be introduced nationally next month.

Counselling will be offered to anyone whose blood is found to contain the antibodies, and to

their families and friends.

The Haemophilia Society welcomed the government funds yesterday, but said the money was not enough to solve the problem of inadequate numbers of counsellors.

Children 'not at risk'

There is no danger of children contracting Aids in a normal school setting and schools need take no special precautions to cope with a pupil infected by the virus, according to Dr Tony Pinching, a leading expert on the disease (Hilary Wile, of *The Times Educational Supplement*, writes).

Dr Pinching, senior lecturer in clinical immunology at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, London, emphasizes that Aids can be transmitted only by sexual contact, or through large amounts of blood. He said that cuts, grazes, or even serious accidents pose no threat to pupils.

Friday Page, page 11
Experts' reassurance, page 8



Prince Andrew focusing through one of his five Nikons. The Prince, in an interview on page 10, says he enjoys taking common sights from a different viewpoint. His book *Photographs* is published on Monday with windows, gardens, roofs, Navy, family and dogs as its theme. He hopes it will be judged on its merits and not because of who he is (Photograph: Warren Harrison). Spectrum, page 10

Boy, 5, died after he drank single whisky

A healthy boy aged five died after his father allowed him to drink a single measure of whisky, an inquest in Birmingham was told yesterday. A verdict of accidental death was recorded on Steven Meredith by Dr Richard Whittington, the coroner.

The early-morning drink triggered an unusual reaction in the boy's metabolism because he had not eaten since the previous evening, the hearing was told. He went into convulsions and died six days later in hospital.

Dr Peter Acland, a pathologist, told the hearing that the drink reduced the sugar level in the boy's blood and starved his brain of vital oxygen nutrients.

Dr Acland said that the boy of Florence Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, died from an imbalance of sugar in his blood caused by the alcohol.

The single whisky, mixed with orange, had been left over from a christening party for the boy's half-sister last month.

His parents divorced four years ago, but his father, Mr Arthur Meredith, an unemployed bakery worker, of Layton Road, Handsworth, was invited to the christening.

Mr Meredith said he realizes there was whisky in the orange and he let him take it. He said that 15 months earlier Steven had drunk a tumbler of whisky and had not been badly affected.

Naval officer jailed after losing temper in cabin attack

A submarine officer whose temper snapped when he found his girl friend, a Wren, in her cabin with another officer was jailed yesterday for three months and dismissed from the Royal Navy at a court martial in Plymouth.

Lieutenant Carl Garner, aged 26, who admitted two charges of malicious wounding, will serve his sentence in a civil prison. Naval lawyers said that there were no powers to send an officer to a military jail. It was "extremely rare" for a naval officer to be sent to prison.

The other officer, Lieutenant Nicholas Harrop, was court-martialled later and admitted being drunk on the night of the incident. He was fined £300 and severely reprimanded after the court was told that he had drunk several whiskies and pints of bitter before taking Wren Third Officer Emma Tortise back to her cabin.

The court was told that Garner pushed his way into Miss Tortise's cabin and found Harrop sitting on the bed with her.

Garner was said to have ordered Harrop to leave but was answered by giggles from him and Miss Tortise. He took Harrop by the lapels and threw him against a wall, hitting him several times.

Garner then dragged Harrop into the corridor and hit him again before returning to the cabin and tipping Miss Tortise on to the floor.

Lieutenant-Commander Simon Cooper, for the prosecution, said that Garner then put his arms around Miss Tortise and apologized for his behaviour.

"Her response was a string of obscenities to the effect that he should leave immediately", Commander Cooper said.

Garner, who was serving on board the submarine HMS Onslaught, again lost his temper and punched Third Officer Tortise.

Lieutenant-Commander Hugh Wolfensohn, for the defence, said that Garner had acted under extreme provocation.

Compensation urged for soccer hooligan victims

Football clubs should be required by law to compensate victims of hooliganism, a senior policeman said yesterday.

Chief Supt Alan Charlesworth, of West Yorkshire, said legislation should be introduced forcing clubs to take out adequate insurance against injury by spectators to people and property "inside the ground and its confines".

He told the Police Superintendents' Association annual conference at Torquay: "Unruly behaviour outside the ground cannot be divorced from the event".

Mr Charlesworth said the legislation would provide adequate compensation, particularly in cases where those responsible were unidentified.

He also called for the creation of a specific offence of missile throwing at football matches for which people could be arrested.

The association said that matches should be played behind closed doors or cancelled if strict conditions for policing the evacuation of grounds were not complied with.

Clubs should have enough money to pay for sufficient police officers to ensure evacuation in accordance with the proposals of the Poplewell inquiry, it said.

The Football Association yesterday dismissed the proposal for insurance and damage outside grounds as "absolute nonsense".

Home improvement changes condemned

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Green Paper proposals for means-tested home improvement grants and equity sharing loans were described as unwelcome yesterday by the Building Employers Confederation.

It also criticized proposed alterations to standards of fitness of houses which it believes will reduce the variety and scope of housing improvement work eligible for assistance.

Mr Ken Harper, working party chairman, said: "The penny-pinching approach of the Green Paper is a recipe for deterioration which so far has merely succeeded in uniting all those with an interest in housing improvement in common opposition rather than harnessing that united approach for a combined attack on housing decay."

"Penny-pinching and means-

testing now will spell disaster in the future as the nation's owner-occupiers face the penalties of inadequate spending on repair and maintenance. The Government could be throwing away the opportunity to maintain one of the country's most important national assets, its housing stock."

The confederation's proposals to deal with the 4.3 million dwellings which are in serious decay (25 per cent of the housing stock) are headed by a government commitment to spend £600 million a year throughout the life of the Parliament.

That would cover all dwellings lacking basic amenities, all dwellings in housing action areas, and leave £50 to £100 million for other houses needing major repairs.

Boy villain's velvet-lined den of crime

The key figure in a gang of thieves who committed almost every type of theft was a tiny boy aged 11, magistrates at Bradford Juvenile Court were told yesterday.

He was known in the Manchester area of the city as "King Thief" and his palace was a velvet-lined wooden den near a big wool mill from where he organized his night raids.

More than £25,000 worth of stolen property passed through the hands of the boy and 11 other youths. They stole to order and at least £20,000 worth of goods was stolen.

Mr Paul Hinds, for the prosecution, said: "It is probably the largest set of matters ever to be dealt with by this juvenile court".

The boy, now aged 12, admitted 11 offences of theft, burglary, and receiving stolen goods involving property valued at about £3,000 and asked for 78 offences, involving about £10,000 worth to be taken into consideration. He was put into the care of the local authority.

Another youth aged 14, who admitted eight offences and asked for 41 to be considered involving property to a total value of about £3,500, was sent to a detention centre for 12 weeks.

The younger boy admitted that he was known as King Thief among his group and said property they had stolen had included about £200 worth of trousers, between £400 and £600 worth of socks, hundreds of pens, shirts, cameras, electronic games, shoes, jewellery, batteries, padlocks and a television set.

Mr Reginald LePla, for the boy, said his offending began at the age of 10 when he stole an apple. He said that by July last year he was almost totally in the hands of the adults who had been receiving the stolen property.

Household insurance 'too complicated'

By Our Property Correspondent

Household insurance policies should be made easier to understand, the Office of Fair Trading says in a report published yesterday.

Sir Gordon Borrie, director general, said: "Far too many policyholders are bewildered by their legal terminology and rely on the often simplistic 'peace of mind' advertising put out by the industry."

No policy covered all risks, he said, and it was in the insurers' interest to educate customers.

The report expresses concern that increases in contents insurance, especially in inner city areas, make it difficult for some householders to afford it. It suggests insurers should

publicize cheaper forms, such as indemnity-only policies.

Insurers should also consider doing more to encourage householders to prevent losses, rewarding those who installed security devices or set up neighbourhood watch schemes.

With regard to leaseholders and tenants in England and Wales, and flat owners in Scotland, the report says they often do not have the right to 'make sure that their landlord has adequate home insurance and generally have no legal rights to claim if the landlord fails to do so.

Household Insurance: a report by the Director of Fair Trading (available from room 517, Chancery House, Chancery Lane, London WC2).

NFU agrees to support food promotion

The National Farmers' Union yesterday agreed in principle to support a new organization to promote British food at home and abroad.

But it made clear that its support was conditional upon continued government funding and upon greater farmer representation on a styled Food From Britain body.

Food From Britain was established in 1983 with government funding of £14 million over five years, but Mr Peter Walker, who was the Minister of Agriculture, indicated at the time that after the five years it should be entirely supported by the industry.

Mr Simon Gourlay, the NFU deputy president, said yesterday that the union now had authority to negotiate the setting-up of a body which it felt was essential to ensure that farmers and growers did not lose to increasing foreign competition.

Mr Patrick Tory, chairman of the union's cereals committee, said that the Government's assessment that this year's harvest would be between 24 million and 26.5 million tons should be treated with extreme caution.

Kennel Club suspends owner who 'beat dog'

By Tony Samstag

A dog show degenerated into uproar after a woman entered the ring and beat her Afghan hound to the floor, a disciplinary hearing of the Kennel Club was told yesterday.

Mrs Elizabeth Ann Artus, of Cambridge Grove, Whitefield, Greater Manchester, was suspended from taking part in any Kennel Club show or trial for a year after the general committee found her guilty of conduct that was "discrediting or prejudicial".



Mrs Artus yesterday.

...to the interests of the canine world."

A complaint alleging the maltreatment of the dog, Tiger Hunter of Ardsden, was signed by more than 135 witnesses who had attended the Heywood and Radcliffe Canine Society Show last September at a sports centre in Salford.

Mrs Artus said afterwards she would appeal against the decision and was considering legal action against some of the witnesses. She had denied she was at the show at the time of the incident and said she was watching television at the home of relatives.

Four witnesses identified Mrs Artus at the Kennel Club's central London headquarters yesterday. They said she had entered the ring while one of her daughters was showing the dog in the children's handling class.

The animal had attacked a terrier and the child had become distraught. Mr Sandra Ormerod told the tribunal that Mrs Artus had leapt into the ring.

"I assumed she was going to the child. But she didn't go to the child at all but started hitting the dog", she said.

Plan to reduce orchestras is dropped

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The Arts Council has dropped its plan to persuade one of London's main orchestras to move to Nottingham, cutting their number from four to three.

Mr Luke Rittner, the council's secretary-general, announced the decision yesterday, but denied it represented a blow to the overall policy of shifting arts resources to the regions.

The proposal was fiercely

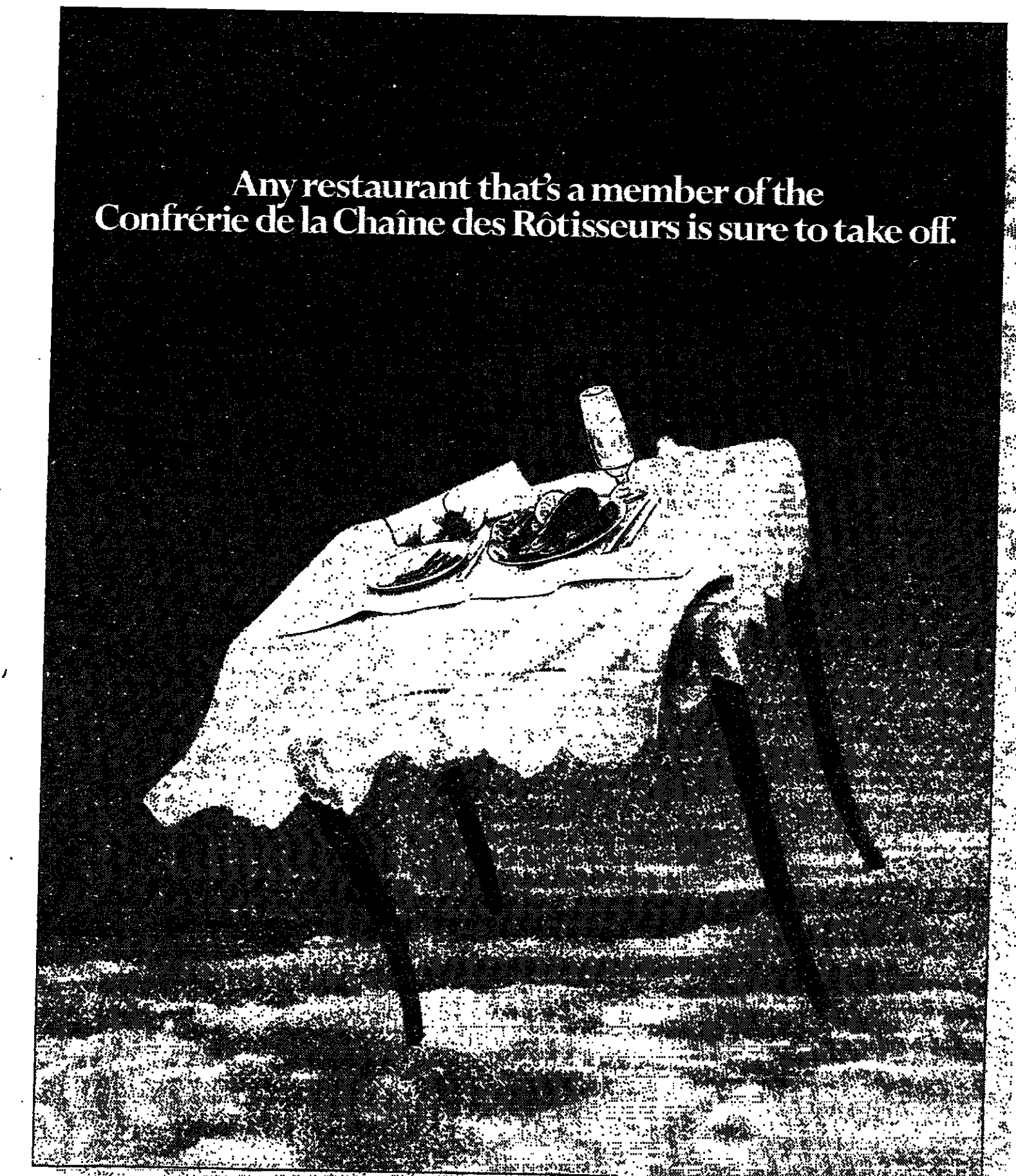
contested by the London Symphony, the Royal Philharmonic, the Philharmonia and the London Philharmonic, and earlier this year the council decided to reduce support for the orchestras by 25 per cent.

Mr Rittner said that the reduction would remain, but the council no longer intended to drop a London orchestra or form one in Nottingham.

The council realized it was impossible to reduce the

number of London orchestras because each could survive without an Arts Council grant. But the council still thought London was over-provided with orchestras.

Next year, after the abolition of the Greater London Council, the Arts Council will take direct responsibility for the orchestras funding, but all four orchestras have been told that the idea of cutting one of their number has been abandoned.



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By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

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Fabius statement fails to silence the critics of Greenpeace fiasco

From Diana Geddes, Paris

M. Laurent Fabius, the French Prime Minister, has failed miserably in his attempt to silence the critics of the Greenpeace fiasco by his television statement on the affair on Wednesday night. He has been greeted by widespread scepticism and, far from stilling criticism against the Government, has merely provoked even more rigorous attacks.

Nearly every commentator has pointed out that M Fabius simply expressed his "conviction" without providing any proof that the responsibility for the order to sink the Greenpeace boat lay with M Charles Hernu, the former Defence Minister, and Admiral Pierre Lacoste, the former head of DGSE the foreign intelligence service.

"What is the 'conviction' of a Prime Minister in peril worth?" The right-wing daily, *Le Quotidien*, asked derisively, while the left-wing *Liberation* newspaper suggests that M Fabius asked M Hernu to "carry the can" to save the Government, but that the latter had refused, hence the rather quaint wording of the Prime Minister's statement.

"Clearly, everything is being done to limit responsibility to an exclusively ministerial level and thereby to clear totally the armed forces' top brass and the Elysée," Mr Serge July, the editor of *Liberation*, said.

The right-wing *Figaro* newspaper, which the previous day had directly accused M Fabius of lying about his knowledge of the affair, yesterday returned to the attack. Quoting "the very best sources," it claimed that M Fabius had been told on July 17, a week after the sinking of the Rainbow Warrior, that French secret agents were

implication had always been met by a denial, he insisted.

Several opposition leaders yesterday accused President Mitterrand and M Fabius of responsibility in the affair, and accused them of dumping M Hernu in order to try to save their own skin. M Philippe Seguin, a leading Gaullist RPR deputy, said that the defence and interests of the country now required that M Fabius, too, should go.

M Hernu, true to his promise to continue to support the Government, is doggedly refusing to say anything about either M Fabius's latest allegations against him or the nature of his role in the Greenpeace affair. When he resigned as Defence Minister last Friday, he simply said that officers within his ministry had hidden the truth.

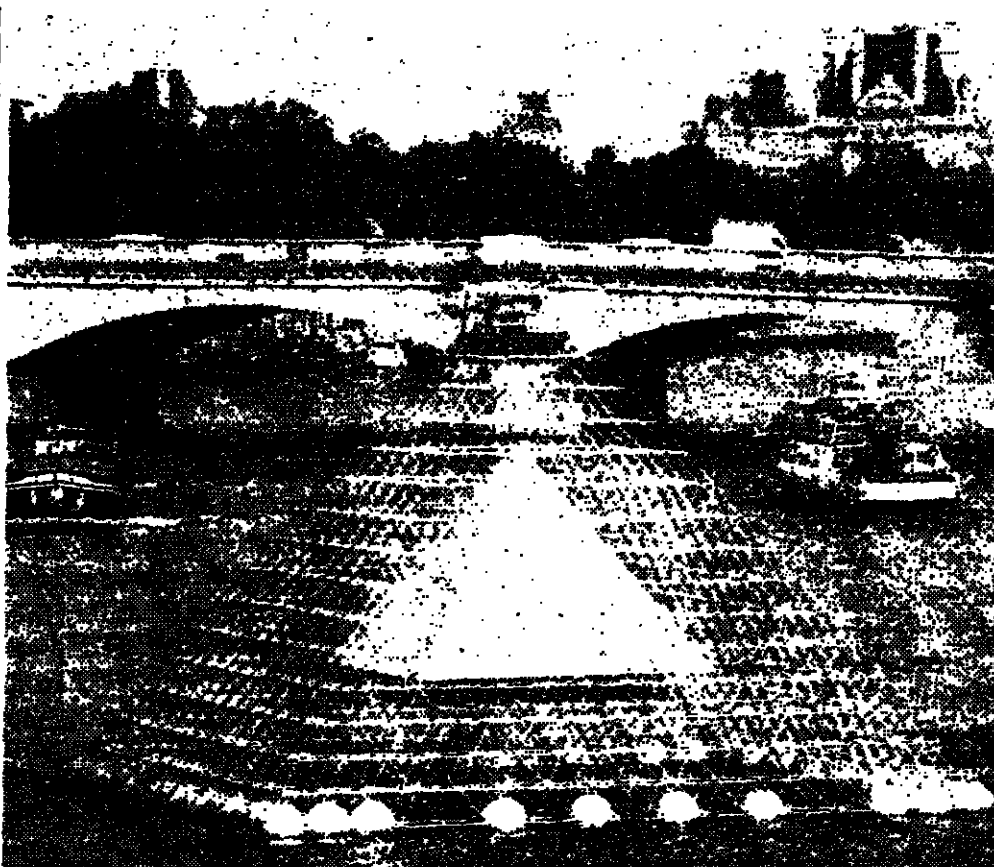
Four officers, including three active members of DGSE, were yesterday charged with leaking military secrets "of a nature liable to harm the defence of the country".

They were named as: Colonel Joseph Fourrier, aged 57; Captain Alain Bonnas, aged 34; Adjutant Richard Guillet, aged 32; and Staff-Sergeant Bernard Davier, aged 27. All four have been freed on bail after being held for questioning for the past two days, but have been placed in solitary confinement by the military authorities.

Darwin (Reuters) - Nine anti-nuclear demonstrators were yesterday fined a total of \$1,500 for their role in a five-day blockade of a shipment of uranium ore from this Australian port. The accused, all members of the Greenpeace environmental group, pleaded guilty in court here to charges of unlawfully boarding a ship without the permission of the owners. The protesters had chained themselves to the British ship *Clydebank* in an attempt to stop it from leaving for Europe.

responsible, and that he in his turn had immediately informed President Mitterrand.

M Fabius claimed on Wednesday night that he had not known that French secret agents were involved until M Paul Quilès, the new Defence Minister, had informed him last Saturday. Until then, his persistent questions as to their



The 39ft floating pyramid Hapitron by the French sculptor Felix during a test on the Seine before it is made ready for a trip along the Nile early next year.

Uganda rebels go to negotiating table

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

President Moi of Kenya chaired a new session of peace talks here yesterday between the ruling Ugandan Military Council and the National Resistance Army (NRA), the guerrilla group which controls a large area of western Uganda and has been attacking army units at several places this week.

The talks, halted since September 5, resumed on Wednesday after appeals for peace by the Kenyan and Tanzanian presidents, and by religious and other leaders in Uganda.

The situation has deteriorated in Uganda in the last few weeks. The NRA says its men launched attacks after learning that army leaders had issued secret orders to attack and wipe out the guerrilla group.

The Military Council yesterday said that its forces had recaptured Mityana, 41 miles west of Kampala, and had repulsed an NRA attempt to capture Masaka, 80 miles south-west of Kampala.

There has been fighting at several other places recently, and Ugandans fear an escalation of the conflict.

The British High Commission in Kampala has advised against travelling to Uganda unless there are pressing reasons to do so, and has suggested that several hundred Britons living there should consider leaving because of the risk of further violence. Food prices in Kampala have rocketed because normal supplies are cut.

While smaller guerrilla groups have signed peace agreements with the Military Council since July 27, the NRA is demanding a large share of Military Council seats and integration of the NRA forces in the regular Army. But the Military Council has apparently resisted these demands.

The talks were held in secret, with several Kenyan ministers present. Kenya wants to see peace restored in Uganda.

Greek security tightened

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, announced yesterday the creation of a "national security council" to tighten state security after the recent spate of arrests here on charges of espionage and terrorism.

One Greek naval lieutenant and two electronics experts are accused of selling defence secrets to the Soviet Union, after disclosures by Mr Sere

Bozhan, a Soviet diplomat in Athens, who defected.

At the same time, security police rounded up a left-wing journalist and two friends and charged them with terrorist acts including the instigation of political assassinations. However, the journalist, much to the government's embarrassment, turned out to be a paid informer of the Greek intelligence service.

Lee cautions against relying on China

From Paul Routledge, Singapore

Mr Lee Kuan Yew, Prime Minister of Singapore, yesterday warned against becoming too dependent on trade with Communist China.

Speaking to local journalists at the end of his 13-day tour of Peking and provincial capitals,

he said that over-dependence could be disastrous when dealing with a Communist country - "and China, despite its open-door policy, is Communist".

He added: "Whatever the benefit they get out of an economic arrangement, if for political reasons they decide

they will break relations with you, then may. So we must keep this in mind."

But Mr Lee said that the Chinese were ready to work with other countries to modernize "like they were never before". It is hoped trade between the two countries will double over the next five years.

Lange says Paris has offered compensation

From a Correspondent, Wellington

France has accepted that New Zealand has a claim for compensation because of the attack on the Greenpeace ship, Rainbow Warrior, the New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr David Lange said yesterday.

Mr Lange said a letter he had received from the French Minister of External Relations, M Roland Dumas said the French Government wished to hold talks on New Zealand's compensation claim.

Mr Lange, speaking at a press conference, said talks resumed in New York yesterday on the issue between New Zealand's Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Geoffrey Palmer and Mr Dumas.

He said the talks, at this stage, were aimed at determining a suitable forum and venue for later negotiations which would be carried out by legal experts from both countries.

Mr Lange again repeated that the question of an early release for the two French agents being held by New Zealand police would not be an issue in the talks and he said he issued specific instructions to Mr Palmer that the agents were not up for "bargaining."

"The whole process of the law in New Zealand is at stake here - we must not, as a

Government, 'interfere,'" Mr Lange said.

He added that the accusation made by The French Prime Minister, M Laurent Fabius on Wednesday that the former Defence Minister of France, Mr Charles Hernu, and the former director of the secret service, Admiral Pierre Lacoste were responsible for the orders could produce an argument that Mr Hernu should also be held accountable to a New Zealand court for the attack.

"But you have to understand that there is a large gulf between the theory of the law and its practical application."

Asked for his reaction to the refusal this week of the American State Department to condemn the attack on the Rainbow Warrior, Mr Lange said: "The world has condemned it - it is now for the United States to determine its position."

In other developments on the affair, one of the two French agents being held in Auckland, Major Alain Mafart, has failed a libel action against a New Zealand Sunday paper. The action relates to a front page photograph of Major Mafart with a headline which said he was "Fascist".

Explosions cause havoc in Maputo

Maputo (Reuters) - Mozambique yesterday was assailing damage caused by the massive explosions which rocked Maputo on Wednesday, killing at least four people and injuring 68 others.

Five of the wounded were critical in hospital, officials said, adding that many houses had been destroyed or damaged.

The Government has said the explosions, which began at 4pm and continued for nearly two hours, were caused by fire sweeping through a military arsenal near Maputo's international airport. They did not say how the fire began.

But in Lisbon, right-wing rebels who have been fighting President Machel's Marxist Government since Mozambique's independence from Portugal in 1975, claimed responsibility and threatened further attacks. The blasts occurred on the 21st anniversary of the start of the Mozambican war for independence against Portugal, declared a public holiday here.

Hundreds of Maputo residents who fled from their suburban homes during the blasts had returned, the government news agency said.

Rebel chief killed in Afghan raid

Islamabad (Reuters) - A senior Afghan rebel commander has been killed in Pakia province, the third to die there during a government drive against guerrilla bases near the Pakistani border.

His party said yesterday that Dad Mir, aged 36, was killed on Tuesday leading rebels on an assault to retake a position captured by Soviet and government troops. The National Islamic Front of Afghanistan said the communist forces were advancing from the garrison town of Knost.

Two other commanders, Ahmad Gul and Fathullah Haggani of the Hezo-i-Islami party, were killed earlier this month in some of the bloodiest fighting of the six-year war.

Dad Mir, who had recaptured several posts in Pakia during the offensive, died near Kuarseen, six miles south-east of Knost.

Rebel parties thought a communist retreat last Friday spelt the end of the five-week Pakia offensive, which began as a drive to relieve Knost from rebel attackers and developed into a campaign against guerrilla strongholds near the mountainous border.

Minister and neo-Gaullist leader, who also has campaigned for the poll, for refusing to form a joint list of candidates to combat what he called the Marxists of the separatist Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front.

With three days to go before voting in the territory's four regions, the capital was calm yesterday after a night of violence when two bombs exploded, and a bakery belonging to a prominent European settler was destroyed by fire.

No one was hurt in the incidents. One blast damaged a supermarket shortly before 1 am. Minutes later a much bigger explosion gutted two floors of a 10-storey government office block.

French rightists pull out of New Caledonia poll

Noumea (Reuters) - The extreme right National Front withdrew yesterday from elections in New Caledonia, saying it did not want to split the French loyalist vote against Melanesian militants demanding independence for the Pacific territory.

The withdrawal of the Front's candidates from the marginal Centre Region in favour of the better placed neo-Gaullist list was announced at a Noumea rally by the party's national president, M Jean-Marie Le Pen.

He made it clear that the decision was a reluctant one, "taken essentially in the higher interest of France".

He attacked M Jacques Chirac, the former Prime



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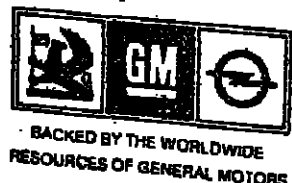
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South Africa in crisis

Courts crack down on police torture and scorn claim to immunity

From Michael Horasby, Johannesburg

Evidence of detainees being tortured under South Africa's stringent security laws and emergency regulations has grown in the past months from a steady trickle to a flood, and the courts are showing increasing willingness to accept it as credible.

The order, issued earlier this week by a Supreme Court judge in Port Elizabeth, restraining the police from assaulting 36 named detainees in two prisons there and any others held in future in the Port Elizabeth or neighbouring Uitenhage districts, is regarded as unprecedented.

Restraint orders have been issued before in respect of individual detainees, but the blanket nature of the Port Elizabeth injunction, implying acceptance by the judge that violence towards prisoners is routine police practice in the area, is unheard of.

The judgment has also established that the police, contrary to what many of them may think, do not have immunity from prosecution under the emergency regulations if convincing evidence can be adduced to show that they have not acted "in good faith".

Legal experts said one of the effects of the injunction was that any future complaints of maltreatment of detainees would lead to prosecution of the police, not only for assault but also for contempt of court, which would substantially increase the penalties.

Equally important and unusual was the source of the evidence on which the judge

was held indefinitely and without access to relatives, lawyers or doctors of their choice.

There is a certain poetic justice in the fact that Dr Orr's immediate superior, whom she prodded into taking action, is Dr Ivor Lang, the assistant district surgeon in Port Elizabeth, who earlier this year was one of two doctors censured by their peers for improper conduct in the notorious 1977 Steve Biko case.

Police in the Eastern Cape have for years had a reputation not only for brutality but also for being virtually a law unto themselves.

On the heels of the Port Elizabeth developments has come news from Cape Town that another restraining order is being sought against police in respect of three coloured youths held under the Internal Security Act.

They allege, among various forms of assault, that their genitals were squeezed, they were kicked and punched, suffocated with a rubber inner tube, submerged head first in a bucket of water and threatened with death, mostly at the hands of black policemen operating under white officers.



The Egyptian President's wife, Mrs Suzanne Mubarak (second from left), watches him addressing the UN General Assembly, flanked by Señora de Pinés (left), wife of the Assembly president, Señora Pérez de Cuéllar, wife of the UN Secretary-General, and (far right) Queen Noor of Jordan.

Southern troops mutiny at Khartoum barracks

Khartoum (AFP) — four people including at least one army officer, were reported killed in fighting which broke out at a Sudanese Army barracks yesterday, after soldiers from the Southern Sudan mutinied and tried to steal weapons.

An unidentified army source said most of the mutineers were later arrested, but seven escaped with weapons. Egypt's Middle East News Agency said in a report from Khartoum that four

people had been killed, but did not name them. A Western diplomatic source here had earlier said that a Lieutenant-Colonel died when intense fire with light weapons started at an army base in the north of the capital where the Army's transport, parachute, and signal and equipment corps are stationed.

A similar mutiny was also reported at the headquarters of the engineers and medical corps in the neighbouring city of Omdurman.

The army source said one of the dead was an army captain, and added that eight people, including a Lieutenant-Colonel, were injured.

He also confirmed earlier reports that the revolt had been started by soldiers sympathetic to anti-government rebels in the south of the country. These included members of the Nubian tribe, he said.

After the firing, which broke out at 3am local time and lasted two hours, bridges and access

roads to the city were blocked by troops until 8am. Troops were later closely inspecting passing vehicles, but the city centre was calm.

The Western source said the lieutenant-colonel was killed as he tried to stop the mutineers of one unit raiding an armoury. Although the April 6 coup which overthrew President Nimeiry raised hopes that the conflict in the south of the country would be resolved, fighting has continued.

Mulroney hit by new Cabinet resignation

From John Best, Ottawa

The Conservative Cabinet of Mr Brian Mulroney has been rocked by the second resignation of a Cabinet minister in less than a week and the third in eight months.

Like the previous two the Minister of Communications, Mr Marcel Masse, left under a cloud.

Mr Masse, aged 49, the MP for Frontenac constituency, south-east of Quebec City, stunned the Commons on Wednesday afternoon by announcing that he had asked to be relieved of his responsibilities pending police investigation of alleged irregularities in the handling of his election expenses.

He said he had become the subject of an inquiry on "a presumed offence" under sections of the Elections Act dealing with spending limits and accountability for campaign contributions.

The Secretary of State, Mr Benoit Bouchard, has been named acting Minister of Communications.

Mr Masse's resignation came only two days after that of Mr John Fraser, Minister of Fisheries, who had come under opposition fire for ordering the release for sale of a million tons of tuna, even though federal fisheries inspectors had found the tuna rancid and unfit for human consumption.

Sanctions warning to Thatcher

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain will do "irreparable harm" to the Commonwealth if it persists in opposing economic sanctions against South Africa at next month's Commonwealth summit in Nassau, the Most Rev Trevor Huddleston, president of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, said in a letter to Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday.

Archbishop Huddleston, who has recently returned from meeting the Prime Ministers of Australia, New Zealand and other Commonwealth leaders, urged Mrs Thatcher to give full consideration to the consequences for southern Africa and to the risk for the future of the Commonwealth, if the Government persists with its policy of opposing effective sanctions.

Archbishop Huddleston said: "The official news agencies say that the letter bombs were smuggled into Tunisia by a Libyan diplomat in a diplomatic bag. A post office worker was slightly injured when one exploded in a Tunis post office on Wednesday, the agency said."

An Interior Ministry spokesman said the four Libyan diplomats were "declared persons non grata" yesterday. Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, has accused Tunisian journalists of a press campaign against his country. The letter bombs were sent to them in envelopes bearing the names of the Arab League or various Arab embassies, the spokesman said.

The agency said the letters were brought into the country on Wednesday by a Libyan diplomat named as Mohamed Salem Belgacem, aged 31, who flew back to Tripoli the same day. They were then posted in Tunis by the four other diplomats. Interior Ministry officials showed photographs of the letter bombs and a video film of the injured post office worker and the damage done by the letter bomb that exploded in the post office in the Tunis suburb of el-Manzan.

At the same press conference yesterday it was announced that the Rev Jesse Jackson, the US civil rights leader and recent presidential candidate, has agreed in principle to address a mass march against apartheid which the Anti-Apartheid Movement will stage on November 2.

Britain's decision to impose a package of restricted measures against South Africa, ranging from an arms embargo (already in effect) to the recall of two British military attaches from Pretoria, has produced a mixed reaction.

Mrs Anna Winterton, right-wing Conservative MP for Cornwall, has written to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the foreign Secretary, to protest about "this limited political and military restrictions against Pretoria was a 'breakthrough'".

"It is an absolute disaster. We have been the only sensible nation so far until this moment."

Another Tory right-winger, however, Mr Ivor Stanbrook, MP for Orpington, praised the move, saying that he had lost patience with the South African Government.

UPDATE ON IBM, SEPTEMBER 1985.

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The total IBM community programme is too diverse to describe here, but if you would like further information, please write to: IBM United Kingdom Limited, External Programmes, South Bank, London SE1 9PZ.



JUST THE JOB FOR BRITAIN.

Tunis expels letter-bomb Libyans

Tunis (Reuters) — Tunisia has expelled four Libyan diplomats accused of sending more than 100 letter bombs to local journalists.

The two countries are rowing over Tripoli's expulsion of more than 30,000 Tunisian migrant workers.

Tunisia last month expelled 283 Libyans, including 30 diplomats, accused of spying.

The official news agencies say the letter bombs were smuggled into Tunisia by a Libyan diplomat in a diplomatic bag. A post office worker was slightly injured when one exploded in a Tunis post office on Wednesday, the agency said.

An Interior Ministry spokesman said the four Libyan diplomats were "declared persons non grata" yesterday.

Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, has accused Tunisian journalists of a press campaign against his country. The letter bombs were sent to them in envelopes bearing the names of the Arab League or various Arab embassies, the spokesman said.

The agency said the letters were brought into the country on Wednesday by a Libyan diplomat named as Mohamed Salem Belgacem, aged 31, who flew back to Tripoli the same day.

They were then posted in Tunis by the four other diplomats. Interior Ministry officials showed photographs of the letter bombs and a video film of the injured post office worker and the damage done by the letter bomb that exploded in the post office in the Tunis suburb of el-Manzan.

Repairmen back from Salyut 7

Moscow (Reuters) — Two Soviet cosmonauts returned to Earth from the Salyut 7 space station yesterday, Tass news agency reported.

Vladimir Dzhanibekov, on his second repair mission in a year, and senior engineer Georgy Grechko touched down in their Soyuz T13 descent module at 09.52 (GMT) near Dzhezkazgan in Central Asia.

The cosmonauts, both men, with eight flights and hundreds of space hours between them, felt well after the landing.

Dzhanibekov, aged 43, spent 10 days aboard the three-year-old station in July, 1984, fixing a leaking fuel pipe. His latest flight, with Viktor Savinykh in June, was hastily arranged after a flight paralysed the 47-tonne orbital complex.

Savinykh is still onboard the station with Grechko's two crewmates who went to join Dzhanibekov and Savinykh last week for eight days of tests.

Their arrival and Dzhanibekov's departure mark the first time Moscow has switched personnel without mothballing the station and underlines its commitment to keeping Salyut 7 permanently manned.

Western space experts said Grechko, aged 54, and the oldest Soviet spaceman, was likely to have spent part of his week's stay in space checking repairs made by Dzhanibekov and Savinykh.

Grechko's companions — Vladimir Vasyutin and Alexander Volkov — will stay with Savinykh for an unspecified period to continue experiments.

Riddle of priest's death

Warsaw (AFP) — A Polish Orthodox priest found dead in June near Bialystok, in eastern Poland, committed suicide and was not killed, the coroner who supervised the post-mortem said yesterday.

But officials of the Polish Catholic Church said they still believed Father Piotr Poplawski, aged 41, was murdered, since it was "unimaginable" that a

priest could have ended his days

Professor Mari Byrdy, who also supervised the post-mortem on the pro-Solidarity priest, Father Jerzy Popieluszko, after his murder last October, denied reports that the body bore knife marks. The Easter Religious Studies department of Keston College, yesterday said the priest had been stabbed at least six times and beaten to death.

Quebec party's cherished goal fading

From John Best
Ottawa

The Parti Québécois (PQ) which has ruled Quebec Province for nine years, is about to get a new leader - and probably in the process edge further away from its once cherished goal of Quebec's independence from Canada.

Six candidates are in the race to succeed the present leader and Premier, Mr René Lévesque. Voting took place on Sunday under a new procedure in which every paid-up member of the party will have a chance to cast a ballot.

Nine hundred polling stations will be set up across the predominantly French-speaking province of six million, ready to record the vote of around 15,000 party faithful. If no candidate wins an overall majority of the votes cast on

Sunday, a run-off among the top three candidates will be held a week later.

As leader of the ruling party, the person chosen will automatically succeed to the office of Premier. From all advance indications, he is likely to be Mr Pierre-Marc Johnson, the present Minister of Justice and Intergovernmental Affairs, who was widely regarded as the hier-apparent even before Mr Lévesque announced in June his intention to retire.

Whoever is chosen will face the formidable task of reuniting a party which still wears the scars of a dreadful fight early this year over the issue of Quebec sovereignty. Fully a third of the delegates to a special convention in Montreal walked off the floor after a resolution was adopted removing the goal of independence from the party platform.

The resolution was sponsored by Mr Lévesque and the PQ leadership. However, Mr Johnson, a tall, intense, good-looking politician, aged 39, who has been in the Lévesque Cabinet since shortly after the PQ first took office in 1976 is regarded as its inspiration and architect.

Mr Johnson is still viewed with suspicion and hostility by the hard-core separatist wing of the party, as illustrated by the boos he received at a big PQ youth rally in Montreal earlier this month, and at other rallies.

Nevertheless, he appears to have gauged the mood of the party's rank-and-file fairly well. Polls have shown that the people of Quebec are no longer greatly interested in independence, except perhaps as a kind of impossible dream, and want their politicians to concern

themselves with the solution of economic problems instead. Mr Johnson appeals to that bias.

Only one of the six leadership candidates has presented himself as an out-and-out separatist. He is Mr Guy Bertrand, a fiery Quebec City lawyer, who has vowed to end the party's "hypocrisy" over this issue and make the next provincial election an independence referendum.

The other four candidates have been carefully treading around the issue, although one of them, Ms Pauline Marois, Minister of Manpower, has like Mr Johnson, been accused of being too favourable to Canadian federalism.

Ms Marois and the provincial Agriculture Minister, Mr Jean Garon, are considered to have the best chance of stopping Mr Johnson, if anyone has a chance.

The new leader, when he takes over as Premier a week or so after the PQ vote, will have to take a quick decision on when to hold the next provincial general election.

Normally he might be tempted to take advantage of all the publicity surrounding the leadership vote to dissolve the assembly and jump into an early campaign. However, in this case the leader may decide to err on the side of caution and put off an election until the spring - the limit of the PQ's five-year mandate.

This would give him time at least to try to bind the wounds that still afflict his badly-divided party. It would also give the PQ more time to close the edge in popularity now enjoyed by the opposition Liberals, as reflected in various opinion polls.

Families flee from hurricane Gloria

From Trevor Fishlock
New York

Thousands of people moved to safety yesterday as Hurricane Gloria threatened the eastern coast of the United States. "This is a very dangerous storm," the National Hurricane Centre said.

Vulnerable coastal areas in North and South Carolina were evacuated and a hurricane warning covered a 400-mile stretch of coast from Charleston, South Carolina, to Norfolk, Virginia. Thousands left coastal islands for higher ground and all along the coast people boarded up their homes and shops.

Because of the storm's unpredictable nature, and the fear that it might swing north, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston were warned they could be hit.

Described as one of the strongest Atlantic hurricanes on record, with winds of more than 130 mph, Gloria moved yesterday at 15 mph on a north-westerly track from north of the Bahamas towards the Carolinas. As the day wore on, there were signs that it was turning northwards, increasing the chance that it might hit New England.

The last time a major hurricane struck the north-east was in September 1938. Six hundred people were killed when the storm roared over Rhode Island and Providence.

Strange reasoning

Television

At one point during The Banding File (Channel 4) a Labour councillor suggested that Roy Hattersley, MP for Sparkbrook in Birmingham, was at fault in having so much personal charisma and good standing with his Asian constituents that he had been nicknamed Hattersjee. As a result, it was claimed, people responded to Mr Hattersley personally instead of to the ideology of the Labour Party. This effect was further described as contributing to racial discrimination in the constituency.

Alice-in-Wonderland reasoning of this nature unfortunately obscured what appeared to be a sound expose of political corruption in Sparkbrook. Towards the end of 1983 the local Labour Party received a suspiciously large block of membership applications through one Asian leader. Upon investigation, half of these proved to be bogus. Roughly seventy forms had been completed on behalf of people who did not understand them, or who had not paid their own subscriptions, or lived at non-existent addresses. (Even more startling was Roy Hattersley's suggestion that such irregularities were common in all political parties.)

Another Labour councillor, Najma Hafeez, described the special vulnerability of the Asian community to the im-

proper use of influence by their own leaders. She suggested that this was a cultural predisposition, exacerbated by the fact that many Asians in Britain did not speak English or understand the political system fully.

In this area the programme's material clearly related to an Asian issue. Instead of exploring this territory, however, the programme developed a confused attack on Roy Hattersley and the Labour Party as a whole. It alleged that the mass recruitment among Asians in one Sparkbrook ward had routed a threat to Mr Hattersley from the left wing of the local party and then jumped, clumsily, to the conclusion that this prevented Asians from being properly represented in the party at this level. Proof of the proposition that the majority of Asians in Sparkbrook supported far-left Labour views was missing.

Many of the most damning statements made by interviewees were off-the-record quotes written out in subtitled beneath mute pictures of the alleged speaker, a most unprofessional device. The Banding File, a new series, is devoted to the issues of development and national independence in the countries of Africa and Asia. It was difficult to see how this documentary, starting as its title suggested, was fitted into this brief.

Celia Brayfield

Hijack feared by Cyprus in move to free killers of yacht tourists

From Robert Fisk, Larnaca, Cyprus

Cyprus is expected to refuse a request from Israel to extradite the three gunmen accused of murdering three middle-aged Israelis on their yacht in Larnaca harbour on Wednesday. The two countries have no extradition arrangements and the three men - who were remanded in custody for eight days at a court hearing here yesterday - are expected to be charged with premeditated murder under Cyprus law.

In the brief hearing yesterday, the two men with dark, Arab faces, gave their names as Elias Yahia Nassif, and Mahmoud Khalid Abdullah, both aged 24. The third man, whose blond hair and moustache and European features give him a distinctly European appearance, identified himself as "George Hannah" but an Arabic interpreter for the Cyprus police said privately after the court hearing that "Hannah" - a Palestinian Christian name - spoke Arabic very poorly.

One report in Cyprus suggested that "Hannah" was in fact, a West German, although he said nothing in court. The

only comment came from Mr Nassif, who said - quickly and in Arabic - "We did not want to do it."

The three men were taken from the hearing handcuffed to Cypriot police officers and are expected to be held at the country's central prison in Nicosia.

The Cyprus Government's deepest concern now is that the three men may try to hijack a Cyprus Airways airliner, a method that has in the past induced the Nicosia authorities to release convicted men.

There were other concerns among Palestinians yesterday in Lebanon, where radios reported the probability of Israeli air strikes against Palestinian camps although the PLO itself has denied responsibility for the Larnaca murders.

For much of the morning, high-altitude Israeli reconnaissance jets flew over Beirut and the Bekaa Valley, a tactic which in the past has invariably led to Israeli bombing raids within 24 hours. Today is therefore likely to be a critical one in Lebanon.

Israel seeks extradition of massacre three

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Israel is to ask for the extradition of the three gunmen arrested in Cyprus after the shooting of its citizens in Larnaca marina on Wednesday. The decision was taken yesterday by Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, after consultation with legal experts.

Israel will argue that extradition is possible under an international convention which both it and Cyprus have signed and which it believes has the force of a formal treaty between the two countries.

Although it is accepted that Cyprus has a first right to try the three men, there is strong scepticism here as to whether the Cypriot Government is prepared to do so. The trade union movement newspaper *Dawn* summed it up yesterday, saying: "Cyprus allows the terrorists a substantial infrastructure there. It has also displayed stunning generosity in the past towards Arab terrorists who have been caught in the act."

Some politicians and newspapers are also holding Mrs

Thatcher partly responsible for the attack by inviting two members of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to talks in London next month. It is claimed this has encouraged terrorism and shows that the PLO is not ready to discuss peace.

"The main lesson from the ghastly tragedy should be drawn by those who persist in deluding themselves that they can do business with Yasser Arafat and his gang in the interest of Middle East peace," the *Jerusalem Post* said.

A spokesman for "Force 17" has denied, however, that the elite gang of Fatah members was in any way involved in the Larnaca incident. A spokesman said the shooting was an attempt to discredit the PLO before the London talks.

Defence sources here believe that tight security in Israel is making it so difficult for operations to be mounted inside the country that attacks are increasingly being made on Israeli targets elsewhere.

Health experts attempt to lessen fear of Aids

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Reassurances about Aids risks emerged from a two-day meeting of 13 leading experts convened by the World Health Organization. Cases of the disease, approaching 30,000 have been diagnosed in almost 50 countries, though nothing is yet known about the incidence in the Soviet bloc and many Asian countries.

The chairman of the meeting, Professor Friedrich Deinhardt, of the Max von Pettenkofer Institute, Munich, said the strongest weapon against the disease was information to the public and normal hygiene measures.

"In no way can Aids be compared to the great plagues of the Middle Ages," he said. "There is no evidence that it is spread through casual contact with an infected person. It is primarily a sexually transmitted disease."

Dr Walter Dowdle, of the Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, Georgia, said between 5 and 20 per cent of the estimated 500,000 to one million persons infected with the virus in the US, might develop Aids. "But the disease is not that easy to catch," he said.

Halfdan Mahler, the WHO Director-General, voiced the concern of almost all the 166 member states over the syndrome and the public fear Aids generated. Close international co-operation was essential in containing its spread.

Dr Deinhardt said infection risks for blood transfusion recipients and haemophiliacs was decreasing - and would disappear - as more countries introduced screening in blood banks. This would be general in West Europe and North America by the end of the year.



Mr Surjit Singh Barnala who is likely to be Punjab's next chief minister after his moderate Akali Dal party swept to victory in India's troubled state.

Kohl faces long public spy inquiry

From Frank Johnson
Bonn

West Germany's opposition Social Democrats (SPD) yesterday decided to precipitate a long public inquiry into the recent Bonn spy scandals. Chancellor Kohl will be forced to appear before it.

Under parliamentary procedure here, most governments, including this one, are powerless to prevent the setting up of such an inquiry, which is known as a Parliamentary Investigation Committee. The setting up requires the support of only a quarter of the Parliament (Bundestag).

The SPD said the inquiry would be entirely about the responsibility of Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the Minister of the Interior, in the spy cases. He is blamed for keeping in office the debt-ridden and alcoholic counter-espionage official, Herr Hans-Joachim Tiedge, who defected to East Germany in August. He is also blamed for not allowing police telephone taps and mail checks on the Willners, the secretary in Chancellor's Kohl's office, and her husband, who defected later.

Although on the face of it an obvious tactic for any Opposition, the forcing of the inquiry was not an easy decision for the Social Democrats. As well as embarrassing the Government by revealing much incompetence and lax security, the inquiry could also endanger West German agents in East Germany. If the Government can show that danger, it is assumed that it will damage the SPD in the eyes of the electorate. With those considerations in mind, Chancellor Kohl's Christian Democrats issued a statement saying: "The SPD wants to turn this inquiry into a political battleground in order to make as much political capital as possible out of the deeds of East German agents."

The inquiry is expected to last about nine months.

Kasparov keeps up initiative

Moscow (Reuters) - The ninth game of the world chess championship started yesterday with tense manoeuvrings between the challenger, Gary Kasparov, holding a small but definite advantage on the white side of a Ruy Lopez opening, and the defending champion, Anatoly Karpov.

The challenger switched openings again, reverting to pushing his king's pawn forward even though this led to over-extension and a painful loss in the fifth game of the match.

Karpov again chose to defend the black side of a classical closed Ruy Lopez, although he selected a different variation, perhaps confessing that his last win was due more to his opponent's over-ambition than the merits of the opening.

The consensus among the Soviet grandmasters analyzing the course of play was that Kasparov had maintained the initiative associated with the white pieces.

Ninth game
White: Kasparov, Black: Karpov
Ruy Lopez opening

1 P-K4	2 N-K3	3 B-N5	4 B-N3	5 P-Q3	6 P-K3	7 P-Q3	8 P-K4	9 P-Q3	10 P-K4	11 P-Q3	12 P-K4	13 P-Q3	14 P-K4	15 P-Q3	16 P-K4	17 P-Q3	18 P-K4	19 P-Q3	20 P-K4
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Journalist jailed for treason

Ankara (Reuters) - A Turkish newspaper columnist and historian, Ihsan Bardaki, and a Turkish translator at the Libyan diplomatic mission were jailed for 17 and 15 years respectively for treason.

Bardaki, who until his arrest in January wrote a column for the conservative daily *Tevfik*, and the translator, Suleyman Tukay, were found to have passed secret information to Libya, Syria and Iraq.

MiGs based in Vietnam alarm US Navy

From Paul Routledge
Singapore

Soviet Mig 23 "Flogger" supersonic fighters based at the former American base at Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam constitute a "new threat" to South-East Asia, according to senior United States Navy officers.

Subic Bay Naval Base and Clark Air Base in the Philippines are within range of the Russian strike force, intelligence experts believe.

The Soviet Union has also deployed its latest Kilo-class diesel submarines in the region and one is currently in the South China Sea "perhaps off Singapore", officers told a briefing for journalists on board USS Blue Ridge, command and control flagship of the US 7th Fleet.

In a wide-ranging assessment of the Soviet threat in the 52 million square miles of sea from the Gulf to the Karimkai peninsula, the fleet Commander, Joe McGrath said the US capability "has an edge on the Russians".

Numbers may be much smaller, but the US believed its technology was greater. Roughly half the 72 combat and support craft are aloft at any time, compared with only a quarter of the admittedly larger Soviet Pacific Navy.

The military build-up at Cam Ranh Bay is the Navy's largest since the Vietnam war, though the presence of Russian submarines in the crowded sea lanes of South-East Asia is not under estimated, particularly since the second sighting of a Kilo-class submarine sailing through the straits of Malacca.

"The Kilo is a quiet platform, a difficult target," said Cdr McGrath. "Their willingness to send it outside Soviet home waters implies a growing confidence in their technology and the capabilities of that platform as a threat to the 7th Fleet and to sea lines of communication."

Cam Ranh Bay first leased to the Russians after the 1978 Soviet-Vietnam treaty of friendship, has now been built into a "major staging complex" for the Soviet Pacific Fleet, and is the base for the largest concentration of naval force outside the Soviet Union. On average, 25 combat and support ships are using the port at any time.

"The air threat is significant also," said Cdr McGrath, though it is not thought that nuclear weapons are held on Vietnamese soil. A contingent of naval infantry complements the profile of Soviet strength.

Profitable wait

Las Vegas (Reuters) - A 46-year-old widow, Patricia Mason, won \$1,023,631 on a fruit machine while waiting to check into a Las Vegas hotel. The management moved her into the presidential suite as a guest.

Murdoch award

Helsinki (Reuters) - Mr Rupert Murdoch, the publisher, has been awarded one of Finland's highest honours, the Commander First Class of the White Rose.

Circus exit

Tokyo (Reuters) - A guitarist with an East German circus group performing in Japan since February sought asylum at the West German Embassy and was put on a plane to the federal republic.

Hotel blaze

Bangkok (Reuters) - Four people were killed in a pre-dawn fire which swept through eighth-floor rooms of the Grace Hotel in the Sukhumvit entertainment district here.

Journey's end

Perry, Florida (AP) - Mary Jane Colson, the 113-year-old daughter of a slave, and said to be the oldest resident in Florida, died at home today. Her last words were: "Come on Jesus, I'm ready to die. I'm so tired."

Swiss jail three in first 'pizza connection' trial

Lugano, Switzerland (Reuters) - Three men were given jail sentences for "laundering" \$47 million (£33 million) amassed from heroin sales in pizza bars in the United States.

The trial was the first of a series to be held in Switzerland, New York, Italy and Turkey of more than 500 alleged members of the "Pizza Connection", who US officials say sold about \$1.65 billion worth of heroin over five years in pizza parlours in New York and the mid-western US.

The toughest sentence, 13 years, was imposed on a Zurich

Peru military to try officer

Lima (Reuters) - Peru's Defence Minister announced that Lieutenant Telmo Hurtado, an army officer accused of massacring 40 Indian peasants at Accomarca in the state of Ayacucho, is to be tried by court martial. A Senate commission had pressed for a civilian trial.

The killings triggered the sacking last week of Peru's top military chief and the two most senior commanders fighting the Sendero Luminoso rebels.

Craxi sues

Rome (Reuters) - Italy's Prime Minister, Signor Bettino Craxi, has taken out a writ against a leading newspaper, for using his photograph in an advertisement without permission. It shows him looking very weary with his head on his hand. Above the caption: "Republican wakes up Italy".

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Dublin Theatre Festival

Baglady/Lady Bag
Damar Hall

Two shortish, vastly different plays by Frank McGuinness provide a showcase for the mature talents of Maureen Toal, a widely experienced stage actress most familiar to English audiences for her television work. Miss Toal carries the evening grandly.

The first of these plays is an elegantly worked out monologue, delivered by a preternaturally sexless figure, shabby and dumpy in a buttoned-up raincoat and coffee head-scarf, carrying her past in a sack slung over her shoulder. By turns intelligent, winsome, genial, paranoid and pathetic, the Baglady personifies the impotence of all solitary transients for whom the world has become a mute and unresponsive sounding-board.

Patrick Mason's production judiciously invites us to accept, alternately, that the Baglady is addressing us directly and that she is speaking into a terrible void. Perforce, we listen to her autobiography.

By degrees a Freudian horror-story is revealed through her too-much protesting defence of her father's good name: a happy childhood in the country went awry when she was told her mother was to be a good girl and that the two of them were to have a great secret together.

It is a commonplace that the victims of paternal incest take the guilt for the deed upon themselves and this contains a truth of their own perception of the rest of their days. This victim's sense of reality has been fragmented into as many

pieces as the shards of mirror-glass which do service for the river on whose bank she is standing (the only décor in this production, and all the more telling for that). It cannot but remind her, challengingly and obsessively of the river, in which she drowned the issue of her incestuous union. She ends by committing to the water the contents of her bag: a chain, a white dress, and a golden wedding ring. But, as we know, the past is far too good a swimmer for this act of defiance to succeed.

Miss Toal's character in the second play, a two-hander, seems purpose-built to squish the humane reaction so skillfully engineered by the first. A motorbike roars to a halt off-stage and in the bounce, done up in a man's habit while her long-suffering son (Jonathan White) waits over the dinner chair he is dutifully strapping. It is a cute enough situation: the son a conscientious, rather effete schoolmaster spending his free time working on his house; the mother a blowsy, raucous singing-television person, jumping in and out of costume and terrorizing the neighbours with her sadistic practical jokes.

This colourful maternal monster has been imposing on his good nature for a year and a half and he understandably wants her to move on. His problem is that he finds himself unbalanced by her gruesome, bludgeoning charm. The play's problem is that Mr McGuinness's script goes for the easy laugh at every opportunity, and while it gets plenty of response from its target audience, the lasting impression is that of a foul-mouthed episode of *I Love Lucy*.

Martin Cropper

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THE ARTS: 2

Concert

Intense darkness

Washington NSO/
Rostropovich
Festival Hall

During its stopover in London, which occurs near the end of a month-long tour of Europe, the National Symphony Orchestra of Washington DC is giving three Shostakovich symphonies, the First, Eighth and Tenth, in as many concerts. I doubt whether anyone would argue with the assertion that those it is the Eighth, which was played in the first concert, that goes deepest, exploring all the anguish, and some of the hopes, of war from within (the piece was composed in 1943).

With Mstislav Rostropovich occupying the post of music director, this orchestra finds itself in a peculiarly privileged position as far as playing such music is concerned. Certainly they play it well. The strings projected with exactly the right dark intensity, even if they were not always absolutely together in some of the slower music, and the brass section never allowed Shostakovich's shrieking climaxes to cross the line that separates musicianship from insensitive vulgarity. The only technical weakness, if it amounts to that, is a thinness of sound in the oboe department, very much in the French style. I felt just a little too dry.

Such pernickety criticism, however, is irrelevant in the face of this highly charged, spine-chilling performance. One remained slightly confused by that odd finale, where Shostakovich's obsession with the forces of darkness is allowed to intrude upon what amounts to a pastoral optimistic vision of the future. But the first Scherzo, which we can now hear not only as a simple evocation of the enemy marching on but as an observation that man can be unthinkingly cruel to his own kind, was utterly terrifying, while the final trumpet tone in the second Scherzo only exaggerated the horror of it all. How pregnant, then, was the passacaglia's lament for humanity's condition.

Ravel's G major Piano Concerto, neither as rambling nor half as profound, might seem a strange piece with which to balance such a work, but Martha Argerich's presence guaranteed a performance of the subtlest brilliance. Most impressive, perhaps, was her cool detachment in the slow movement, which in her hands became a refined poetic experience. But the rhythmic tension of the racy outer movements was thrilling in its own right, and the orchestra splashed its gaudy colours on the riotous canvas with impeccable judgement.

Stephen Pettitt

Cinema

Moving protest against tyranny

Camila (15)
Curzon

Fletch (U)
Empire 1

Body Double (18)
Film Centre, Charing
Cross Road; Classic,
Chelsea

The Hustler (18)
Electric Screen

Forget Venice (X)
Academy Two

For the second successive week a new Argentine film opens in the West End, and Maria Luisa Bemberg's *Camila* is if anything better than last week's *The Official Version*. Not for the first time, it appears that liberation from political oppression is often followed by significant artistic revival.

Camila is based on true and terrible events that occurred during the despotic rule of the Argentine dictator Juan Manuel de Rosas, who incidentally instigated the first squabble with Britain over the Falkland Islands. In 1847, Camila O'Gorman, the daughter of a cattle baron, and Father Ladislao Gutierrez, a Jesuit priest, fell madly in love and eloped.

For a while they hid out in a remote northern village, where they established a school for the local children, but eventually they were hunted down and executed for the capital crime of sacrilege. They were buried together in one rough wooden casket.

The story of the tragic lovers passed into folklore, and was filmed in 1912 by Mario Gallo, as *Camila O'Gorman*, with Blanca Podesta in the title role. In more recent times attempts to remake the subject were firmly blocked, under successive dictatorships, about the violent suppression of personal freedom, the abuse of power and the complicity in state tyranny of the church and a traditional patriarchy, were much too close to home.

Maria Luisa Bemberg and her co-scenarists began work on the film during the last days of the dictatorship, and began to shoot on the very day that democratic government was restored. The long preparation has assured a finely-composed, script, which exploits all the story's rich possibilities as a romantic melodrama without sacrificing its wider implications as a protest against the kind of oppression that remains so close to Argentina's memory.

The film was shot entirely on location, in a mere nine weeks, which makes all the more remarkable the convincing period recreation and the rich, sensuous pictorial quality of Fernando Arribas's photography. Hardly a performance can be faulted: the leading roles are played by Susu Pecoraro, a stage and television actress, and Imanol Arias, a Spanish film

actor whom Bemberg engaged, she explains, because she simply and sensibly fell in love on sight. Camila's despotic father is played by Hector Alterio, the outstanding Argentine actor who was long exiled and can also be seen in *The Official Version*.

Camila is an encouraging demonstration that it is never too late for success. Bemberg, now 62 and a nine-times grandmother, made her first feature film at 58. *Camila* has been nominated for an American Academy Award, has achieved world-wide distribution, and has proved such a popular success at home that every day half a dozen new-born Argentine babies are christened Camila.

Michael Ritchie, with his bent for satire (*The Candidate*, *Smile*) appears as director of Fletch, a cheerful, extravagant comedy-thriller based on the character created by the best-selling novelist Gregory McDonald. Chevy Chase, who plays Fletch, graduated from writer to comedian, like Woody Allen and Marty Feldman before him, and is now America's favourite funny man. He has a pleasant grin, a throwaway style, a penchant for silly disguises, and a tendency to get into trouble through incorrigible garrulousness or flamboyant gestures that tend to go wrong and hit somebody. Andrew Bergman's script, cavalier as it is about structure and logic, provides Chase with some suitably foolish escapades and good one-liners.

In *Body Double* Brian De Palma offers a further heavy helping of warmed-over and hoisted-up Hitchcock. The

meandering, unlikely plot stirs together notions from *Rear Window* (voyeur-hero witnesses murder in a house across the way through his telescope), from *Vertigo* (there is an incapacitated at key plot moments by claustrophobia, and also indulges in trailing the murder victim) and from all those Hitchcock plots about the transfer of guilt.

The amiable Craig Wasson plays a small-time Hollywood actor who is set up (literally) in a luxury flat by a jovial new acquaintance (Gregg Henry), and there set up (figuratively) as "witness" to a carefully, misleadingly staged murder. The plot, for all its elaboration, is no more than an excuse for De Palma's set-pieces, which are sometimes admittedly cleverly staged, but as often unappealingly kinky. The high points here are a sequence in a porno film studio, which should have every feminist up in arms; and a messy murder effected with an electric drill equipped with a 20mm screw bit. The version screened here is about five minutes shorter than the original American prints; the video-cassettes released simultaneously are shorter still, thanks to the attentions of Britain's vigilant censorship.

The revival of the week is a full-length version of Robert Rossen's *The Hustler*, which has tended to turn up on television in somewhat truncated versions. After 24 years it is as effective as ever, a model of writing and directing, and a classic demonstration of how sport can be made dramatic and exciting, even to audiences quite ignorant or uninvolved in the game in question. The long



Faultless performances as the tragic lovers: Susu Pecoraro and Imanol Arias as communicant and priest in *Camila*

pool match between Paul Newman, as the ambitious young hustler, and the old champ (a marvellous performance by an unworriedly restrained Jackie Gleason) remains Rossen's most extraordinary *tour de force*. George C. Scott, in one of his early screen roles as the icy pro, lends to the show from the principal characters: Piper

Laurie, given a rare chance at a serious role, provides a memorable performance as Newman's shun-term girlfriend, a defeated near-alcoholic and would-be writer. Another recommended current revival is Franco Brusati's *Forget Venice* (*Unofficial Venice*), first shown by the Academy five years ago and another former Oscar nominee.

It is an ingratiating, bitter-sweet study in nostalgia and the need to exorcise memories, with notable performances by Hella Petri, as the spiritual centre of the disintegrating Italian family, and Eriq Josephson, as a middle-aged homosexual belatedly facing the chill reality of maturity.

David Robinson

Theatre in Britain

Les Liaisons
dangereuses

The Other Place,
Stratford

With Shared Experience's recent adaptation of Richardson's *Pamela* showing that it can be done, here is a brilliant version of the eighteenth century's greatest epistolary novel.

Unlike Richardson, Choderlos de Laclos was a master of plot construction. Everyone of the letters in the book serves to advance the story of how two arch-intriguers conspire in the seduction of a married woman and a 15-year-old girl. Reduced to character, and events it presents a mechanism combining the élastophoric elegance of Racine and the inventive precision of Sardou.

When it comes to adaptation, though, things can go very wrong, as in the dreadful Vadim film version. The action embodies the ideas of military conquest as a metaphor for sexual pursuit: a notion confined to the eighteenth century

and particularly to an aristocratic community with no war to absorb its energy. Update the story and its main spring is removed: leave it in period, and you have the problem of reducing its marvellous but theatrically resistant letters to dramatic speech.

The play is billed as "by Christopher Hampton" and that is no idle claim. Mr Hampton follows Laclos's plot (except in one crucial detail to which I will return) but he has radically recast its structure and language. Letters give way to interviews and reported events to enactments, and, just as Laclos shows his skill in devising ways of keeping people apart, so Hampton finds means of bringing them together.

The dialogue, which clearly arises from a total assimilation of the book, belongs to no particular period. There are anachronistic touches. Where Laclos, in one of his inexhaustible sexual metaphors, refers to a "couple" of music lovers "singing in unison," Hampton has them "in close harmony." The effect is to retain a late eighteenth century setting while developing an idiom that fits any society where cold-blooded conceits and scheming combines with the utmost civility of expression.

Former lovers themselves, the Marquise de Merteuil and the Viscount de Valmont now share a plot to help each other in their schemes of love and revenge, both motives combining in the assaults on the 15-year-old Cecile and the virtuous President de Tourvel. They themselves treat the whole thing as a tactical game played to exceptionally severe rules that have nothing to do with orthodox morality.

During the game, however, a split develops between them when Valmont, protesting the purity of his love to the President as the likeliest way of corrupting her, finds that the masquerade is turning into the



Juliet Stevenson: cutting through the virtuous rhetoric

truth. He finally casts her off, against his real feelings, and dies willing in a duel leaving his former accomplice to carry on the game alone. In Laclos she is destroyed by smallpox and bankruptcy. In Hampton's version, after a series of ominous, revolutionary hints, she is finally seen like one of Pope's card-playing hags, turning up the ace of spades while the drums of 1789 resound from the street.

Played on a composite set by Bob Crowley mingling card tables and rumpled beds, Howard Davies's production at once gives maximum force to the cold-blooded comedy and to the sense of a privileged society shortly due for the chop: an impression strongly reinforced

by Hona Sekacz's discordant pastiche Couperin on an amplified harpsichord.

The central partnership is well differentiated from the start. Lindsay Duncan's Merteuil is a faultlessly well-bred monster wearing her Watteau silks like a battledress and absolutely convincing when she declares that the supreme compliment is to be called cruel.

Alan Rickman, elegantly dishevelled and removing his mask of amorous melancholy to reveal a mirrorless grinning voluptuary, carries the mark of death. As a libertine he is already a burnt-out case; and when he invades Cecile's bedroom at the dead of night it is a stale repetition of former conquests. As ever, though, the language does not fail him. "Well start," he says, "with two Latin terms." The coarser the action the more civilized its expression. He is also superb in the one-letter Hampton has retained: written to his beloved on the back of a naked courtesan who, he later claims, "sometimes does secretarial work for me."

The achievement of Juliet Stevenson as the seduced wife is that she cuts through the virtuous rhetoric and presents a growing reluctant attachment to her reptilian admirer, finally undergoing emotional destruction that all but eclipses the surrounding comedy.

Irving Wardle

Dance

Imaginative choice of music

Othello
Derrogate,
Northampton

In readiness for its London season at the Dominion next month, Northern Ballet Theatre has this week premiered an ambitious new *Othello* at the well-appointed and welcoming Derrogate, Northampton.

Finding suitable music has been a problem with previous ballets on this subject. Unlike Rossen's *The Dream*, nothing very obvious springs to a choreographer's mind. José Limón's choice of Purcell was the most surprising and successful, but that was for a short, formatted version of the plot. Robert de Warren's solution for this production was to commission a score from Loris Tjeknavorian, the Armenian conductor-composer (now an Austrian citizen) with whom he has worked before.

Tjeknavorian's score, in two acts of respectively 40 and 60 minutes, makes use of simple, catchy tunes, generally repeated, sometimes with almost hypnotic effect. Its chief virtue is the highly colourful scoring, skillfully deploying an orchestra of only 25 in which one instrument after another is

featured as soloist to dramatic advantage: note for instance how the percussion ranges from military aggression to an almost gamelan sweetness.

The first act sets the scene in Venice, starting with Iago's malevolent and self-seeking alliance with Rodrigo, then allowing the affection between Othello and Desdemona to develop at leisurely length. In Cyprus for the second half, events gradually accelerate but still allow ample time for the characters to break into expressive and varied duets. Although De Warren follows a straight forward plot that never wanders too far from Shakespeare, he appears at least as much concerned with illustrating as with narrating it.

That gives his principals plenty of scope. I saw two casts in the leading roles at Wednesday's matinee and evening performances. Marcello Angeletti is the more commanding Othello: a forceful warrior, a tender lover, he goes powerfully mad with jealous rage. Nicely as Daniela Buson dances Desdemona, with sure technique and a touching quality in her last despairing solo, she remains in his shadow.

In the other cast, the balance changes. It is not fair to judge instrument after another is

since he bravely completed the role after hurting himself early in the last scene, but until then his sympathetic and clean-cut Othello proved less moving than the sweetly innocent Desdemona of Sylvie Guillaumin. A tall, beautiful dancer newly recruited from the Paris Opera, she looks a notable acquisition who should prove valuable in a wide range of roles and here firmly stakes out her claim to the romantic repertory.

There is scope for some of the other characters to sharpen up their interpretations before they reach London, but Paul Waller, a last-minute replacement as Cassio because of injuries, made him a convincingly amiable, muddled dupe for Andrea Costa's sometimes too-much grinning Iago.

Peter Farmer's designs give the ballet a convincing opulence and atmosphere through the simplest of details and a continuing motif of a glaring eye that gives vivid expression to the doubts crowding in on the hero.

John Percival

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SPECTRUM

Pictures by royal appointment



Prince Andrew, well used to being pursued by the paparazzi,

took his revenge when he turned his lens on our own Alan Hamilton

Prince Andrew issued a breezy command: "Just sit there and look natural. I'm going to get a shot of your photographer taking a shot of me taking a picture of you."

I sat as commanded on the wall of the white summer-house in the Buckingham Palace rose garden, and did nothing in particular while the Queen's second son examined me through the screen of a Hasselblad camera presented to his mother on a late visit to Sweden, and bearing the royal cypher beside its film winder.

His technical assistant and printer, Gene Nocon, fussed around my ear with an exposure meter. "125 at 1/100, sir," called Nocon. "Can't be," retorted the Prince. "Much too bright." "Correction, sir," said Nocon. "125 at 1/100."

"He's very technical," confided Nocon. "He finds mistakes in amateur instruction books."

The Prince let fly a gale of laughter and gave Nocon a mock wailing. "Actually, I'm much more interested in the artistic than the technical aspects. But photography is a bit like flying: to keep up to speed you have to keep up to date with the technical aspects."

Prince Andrew ascribes his now passionate interest in the photographic art to three things: the Falklands War, watching a press cameraman shoot a feature on HMS Invincible, and Koo Stark.

"When I was in the Falklands for the first time there were excellent opportunities to take photographs, and to record from my point of view what went on and how I saw it. But I didn't have a camera with me. Six months later I was with 820 Squadron and Invincible in the Caribbean, and again I didn't have a camera."

"A photographer came out to do a sequence on us. I had the job of lying him around, and I got interested. So when I came back, I bought a camera."

And Koo? She had been asked by Gene Nocon to contribute to his exhibition of pictures by people who were not themselves photographers, but who were always being photographed. Miss Stark, after some cloak-and-dagger negotiation with Nocon in which she at first refused to name names, persuaded the Prince to enter some of his work.

Back at the summer-house, the Prince was snapping away with great enthusiasm, obvious enjoyment, and much joking, particularly at the Times photographer's struggle with a piece of faulty equipment. "Don't you want me to do anything?" I ventured, still maintaining my Rodin-like pose.

"No. I don't usually direct. I much prefer to sit back and let people get on with it, because you get a much more spontaneous photograph." Well, sometimes; but at least two of the pictures in his new book employ considerable artifice and trickery. One, seemingly the Lady of the Lake waiting to catch Excalibur, is in fact Miss Kate Rabbitt up to her neck in a pond at Frogmore on a cold February day with the sword hung from a fishing-line; while the other, mysteriously titled "The Ninth Wife", is a ghostly double exposure of Miss Finola Hughes in a cellar beneath the Curfew Tower of Windsor Castle.

"The great pleasure in taking photographs is that of giving pleasure to other people by being able to give them the photograph you have taken, and showing how good they can look. But I also like to take common sights from a different viewpoint, or with something funny on top of them."

Did not his position make it difficult for him to pursue his interest in peace?

"That's why the first part of my book is called *Windows, Roofs and Gardens*. They were all taken here (Buckingham Palace) or at Windsor. There is a certain amount of time, and privacy here at weekends. You spend your life rushing around from one end of the world to the other, and the only time you have is on the yacht, or at Balmoral, or Sundays. Besides, photography and my job in the Navy don't go together very well."

But his big problem is time. "The Falklands is a marvellous place to be to get the right photograph you have to have the right equipment, and a lot of it. You've got to be in the right place at the right time, and doing the job I was doing (during his



Smile, gentlemen, please: Prince Andrew focuses his camera

second tour of duty there) that was very difficult. I haven't got photographs of the Falklands; I've only got snapshots, but I would love to go back and do it properly.

Suddenly, at the summer-house, there was a Direction. "Go and look at me through the window in the back with your photograph. Oh, marvellous; you look like a Punch and Judy show."

Was there, one wondered silently, a slightly gleeful getting-of-one's-own-back at the Newshounds?

Know them by their pork-pie hats



COMMENT

largely worn pulled hard down over the ears and shaved necks.

They seemed mostly middle-aged and sported their leisure wear absentmindedly. Their clothing marked them out as clearly as any uniform could have done. Watching them set me thinking that few people can follow any form of activity without aids in the way of dress: badges of office, as it were.

You only have to think of joggers. It is difficult to call to mind any less flattering mode of dress than the jogging outfits apparently worn by otherwise sane people. On women the effect is remarkably similar to that 1960s phenomenon of ski-pants then universally worn by WI golfing keep-fitters. In summer joggers are even less appealing when they cram their

pulsating flesh into running shorts. I am a walker. I refuse to adopt the quaint labels of "hiker" or "rambler", the former sounding rather ponderous, the latter aimless and whimsical. I and my friends eschew the impressive uniforms we see adorning the backs of many others that we meet. We try to avoid the bright colours and hi-tech materials so prevalent nowadays in kagools, gaiters and haversacks, now lamentably changed into jargonese "daysacks" or even "daysacs".

Many walkers we pass in the lowlands appear better fitted for the Cairngorms in mid-winter than the mellow barley fields of

Rutland. We blunder along without uniform and yet cover no fewer miles.

It seems to me that Sherlock Holmes would now have great difficulty guessing a person's work by what they wear. He would find leisure pursuits much easier to deduce. He could go further and assess class as well. At a point-to-point, for example, among the Barbour coats, Hunter wellies (ever "Wellingtons") and cloth caps, a pink flying suit would stand out for reasons other than mere colour.

But then I look back on my first day at university in the mid-1960s when we freshmen met at the first of an endless round of introductory sherry parties. The cool guys wore corduroy jackets and non-matching corduroy trousers; the working class lads wore bum-freezer suits and terylene knitted ties with Windsor knots; and the public school chaps wore tweed jackets above grey flannels or cavalry twill trousers.

The interesting thing about student days is that one only feels truly comfortable and relaxed in what became the norm in later student days. When I got home from work I immediately change into jeans and shirt with pullover on top, preferably a Guernsey. I am a child of the mainstream 1960s and early 1970s stuck in a time warp. I just do not feel at ease in the leisure wear of earlier or

later periods. I could no more wear the white baggy, crumpled look-style so popular at the moment than a 1950s duffel coat.

In short I am as much a wearer of leisure uniform as any of the interest groups I see around, ranging from the unintentional garb of rail buffs and stamp collectors, through point-to-pointers, walkers, yachtsmen, motor-sporters, joggers to designer-casuals in all age groups

from those who are too young and to those old enough to know better. One thing I can take comfort in is that my jeans do not have Gloria Vanderbilt's costly signature across the backside.

Now at work dress is optional, as they say, but when I arrived in my trusty Guernsey, my jacket being at the cleaners, the first question I was asked was whether or not I was still on leave. Oh dear, I had worn the wrong uniform.

Martin Andrew

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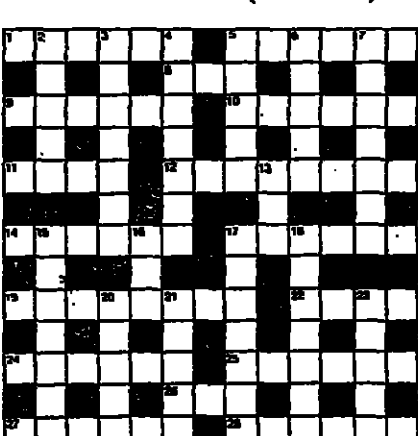
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Time to ask the experts

From L. Ross, Brooklands Crescent, Fulwood, Sheffield.

Your recent article entitled "Fighting for choice at childbirth" (Wednesday Page Sept 11) took the typical standpoint of AIMS [Association for Improvement in the Maternity Services]. Far from trying to improve maternity services, perhaps by constructive suggestion of help to the medical profession, they are bent upon destroying the trust between doctors and their patients.

This is clearly borne out by the references to litigation procedures and the "help and support for victims" which spanned most of the article. It should be remembered by these women that their mothers had more than twice their chance of dying due to childbirth.

I should also point out that women in this country could

TALKBACK

not be given a wider freedom of choice as to the place at which they may give birth. There are no geographical restraints and a woman may have her baby at a maternity unit she wishes, or at home. Dare I also say that the reason for the decline in home births may be because the majority of women have decided that the hospital is the most appropriate place.

Perinatal mortality is mentioned and compared with other European countries; this again is impossible to judge since different standards are used in each country.

Finally I am interested as to why it is always the consumer research that is published. Is it not time that those who have to give the care be asked their opinion?

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FRIDAY PAGE

Westminster whirlwind

Shirley Lowe hangs on to the coat tails of Lady Porter, the dynamic council leader who has shaken up London local government by putting customers first

It is 8.45 am and Lady Porter says she would mind meeting her at her hairdresser so that she can catch on the way back to her flat. There are four rollers in her blonde hair and it seems that Patrick is working wonders, as all she's done this morning is stick her head under the shower.

Shirley Porter is the dynamic leader of Westminster City Council, the younger daughter of the late Sir John Cohen, better known to the public as Slasher Jack, the founder of Tesco. Recently, there has been a rumour circulating around the City that Ian MacLaurin, Tesco's chairman, is going to invite Lady Porter on to the board. She says she would be delighted and honoured to be asked.

"I have lived and breathed Tesco all my life. As teenagers we were taken to biscuit factories or assembly plant for holiday treats. But, even if she doesn't check in at the family firm, all this experience hasn't been wasted because next month she brings One Stop Shopping to Westminster City Hall.

From October 21, anyone wanting to stick an extension on a building, for example, will not have to queue in the council's architect's office and then queue again in the planning department and collect the relevant details somewhere else. There is to be one open-plan floor with clearly marked counters, a couple of rooms set aside for private meetings, and queuing will be on the banks' one-queue principle. Everything will be dealt with in the same place and experts will come down to see you instead of you having to seek them out. It is a revolutionary concept for a local council.

"The idea is to make it easier for the shopper," says Lady Porter with an understandable slip of the tongue. "No, it's not right, like a customer. No, well, he, you know what I mean, it's service." Her father, Sir John, had a habit of handing out tips reading YCDBSOYA (You can't do business sitting on your ass). She believes you cannot counsel from that position either.

I know the refuse collectors better than their managers

She is forever dashing places, charged with energy and enthusiasm, dragging her exhausted staff after her. As Patrick performs his miracles, she launches briskly into the reason why she went into local politics 11 years ago.

"I was walking along the street with a friend one day and it was filthy and I said, 'My God, somebody ought to do something about this', and my friend said 'Why don't you?'"

Paddington Conservative Association had just approached her for Tesco freebies for their tombola. They got Shirley instead. "It's funny, really. I'm considered a right-wing Tory but I've always been liberal-minded. Trouble is, there weren't, still aren't, any Liberals on Westminster City Council."

She turned up before the selection committee carrying a copy of the *Daily Worker* ("I'm always interested in what people think, what's going on, down to earth contact. I know the refuse collectors better than their managers...") And they were either hard up or over-mind because she was accepted for the Hyde Park ward, she says.

Lady Porter is tall, slender, athletic and looks younger than her 54 years; she keeps in shape with tennis, indoor waterskiing, bodywork classes, golf and deep sea fishing. Driving along in the official car she is constantly asking Gary, the chauffeur, to stop so that she can get out and walk.

We keep up a cracking pace across a couple of peaceful Bayswater squares to Lady Porter's block of flats, which is flanked by a fine selection of Mercedes



Lady Porter: "Do you want me 'Mrs Thatcher-neat' or casual?"

and Bentleys on the meters outside. Inside it is New York modern with doorman and all the other burglar-proof devices.

On the way, she kicks a Kleenex from the pavement under a car with a brief snort of displeasure and draws my attention to a picture of a dog with a tail shaped like an arrow pointing into the gutter and the appropriate warning of a possible £50 fine. "There you are, that's one of ours. You can understand that, can't you?"

"Lady Porter is famous for her 'Cleaner' London campaign; she has given us the sponsored litter bins and the superloo. She once persuaded the Duke of Edinburgh to tour the streets of Westminster with her and he was so impressed by her idea of using vacuum cleaners that he wrote and suggested adding on the hose bits you get on domestic cleaners, to get into the difficult corners. 'How are the litter bins?' he calls out every time he spots her across a crowded room."

We swing through the glass doors. "Hi, Dermot!" she cries to the doorman as we jump into the lift and "Hi, Susan!" to her housekeeper, secretary and general factotum ("I couldn't do without her...") as she opens the door.

The photographer is here. "Do you want me Mrs Thatcher-neat or can I be casual?" She does a Mrs Thatcher first, gracious on the soft, golden sofa. The interior of the duplex looks New York glitzy, too, but it was done by the Designers Guild, a company she funded when they started out.

She is wearing a well-cut pink linen skirt, soft pink patterned shirt with modish squared shoulders, patterned tights and a small amount of exquisite gold jewellery.

She changes into trousers and a T-shirt. Hers usually read 'You'll be Better Off Without the GLC'. She and her council recently took the GLC to court and stopped them advertising themselves with ratepayers' money. Before that she commissioned a national poll which revealed that 88 per cent of ratepayers didn't hold with Ken

Livingstone paying for propaganda out of the rates.

"Susan, Susan, 'Phone the hospital will you and tell them we may be a bit late. Say... well, I don't know... think of something." The hospital is Lady Porter's first function of the day. It is a private hospital in Victoria and she is impressed by the grey and pink decor. "Very tasteful, I must say. Hands in pockets, she strides around, collecting pin-striped executives and surgeons as she goes and shoots some shrewd questions at the man from Central Purchasing.

A quick lunch, a bouquet, we're back in the car and heading for City Hall.

She streamlined departments and cut committees

She's into the building and into her office. The staff seem to flinch slightly as she passes and the temporary secretary looks wan. Lady Porter doesn't bother to sit down at the big table. "I like to get around a table, have a head-banging session. Think Tank, you know." There's an impressive strategy plan on the wall listing aims and objectives. Lady Porter nods at it approvingly. "Yes, it's coming along. Always seems much too slow, though. Let's go through this," she says to the temporary secretary and empties the contents of a large, chic, dark blue and emerald green canvas bag on to the table, along with the day's post.

"What's this? Pensioners' bus passes? Urgent? If it's urgent why has it taken two days to get on to my desk?... They want three blooming speeches to open one small swimming pool? Tell them I think they're over-egging the cake... Who's going to prepare this statement? I haven't time..."

She has a meeting about accommodation changes, a persuasive chat with a firm about sponsorship and a talk with the Lord Mayor. Then it's back home

for the weekly meeting with the acupuncturist. "I don't know why, but I seem to get this little knot of tension, right here," she rubs the back of her neck. There's a committee meeting at City Hall before she takes off for the local library to give a certificate to the child who has read the most books in the school holidays (38) and later, she and her husband, Sir Leslie Porter, who recently retired from the chairmanship of Tesco, are having a meal with friends. People are wont to say, "The son-in-law also rises", but that's unfair since Sir Leslie was a self-made millionaire before he was invited to join the family firm. He was knighted the day after Lady Porter took over as council leader.

In her two and a half years as council leader, she has cut down on committees and streamlined departments, brought in outside consultants, took her 70 top staff on a management course to maximise efficiency and insisted on her reports and information sheets being written in plain English.

I'm not a typical Tory - and nor is Mrs Thatcher

She says it is her job to act as a catalyst and "a dedicated and devoted staff" put the council's ideas into practice, but it's no secret that about 50 executives left for something less stressful after Lady Porter arrived. "She doesn't brook opposition as such," one of them said. "It's very, er, challenging trying to keep up with her many interests and enthusiasms," says a present member of staff and a colleague describes her as "Another Edwina Currie, only less pushy."

Illyd Harrington, who used to face her across the floor of the council, has noted an unending touch of "Tory bossiness" and accuses Lady Porter of being "a Mrs Thatcher manque". There's a feeling that she's not quite... well, a gentleman.

"Oh, Illyd's a caution," says Lady Porter. "What he's really saying, and he's right, is that, traditionally, Tory councillors were 'nice' people, they weren't streetwise fighters, like me. They hated all that. I'm not a typical Tory and nor is Mrs Thatcher for that matter. That's why the landed gentry don't care for her. She's too common."

"People often ask me if I'm ambitious. What does it mean? If it means I like to start things and see them come to fruition, well, yes, I am ambitious. It's not done for English people to try hard, so much more suitable to look as though you've scored a goal by mistake."

She is proud of the way her father started his business with a barrow and £30 demob pay but he had made his money by the time she and her sister were born. She went to a boarding school which she didn't like much ("And that's the understatement of the year") and a finishing school in Switzerland, which wasn't her style, either. She married when she was 18, had Linda (now living in Israel) when she was 20 and John ("He works in computers in America") when she was 22. She settled down to being a rich Hampstead Garden Suburb wife and mother, running charities, playing golf, joining the PTA, taking classes in everything from literature to calligraphy. When Linda married, also at 18, Lady Porter and her husband moved to London and she became a JP.

She is a director of Capital Radio, secretary of an investment company, is head of the Federal Ballet and involved in various Zionist organizations and charities. She says she has only come up against anti-Semitism twice. Once, at school, when her refusal to make her head girl when her turn came around. "It became obvious that the headmistress didn't want the name 'Cohen' on her school board."

The second occasion was when she was turned down for a golf club after filling in a form which asked her to state her religion and her original name, if she had changed it. "I stood up and made a public observation about that. I can't stand injustice."

She has been something of a rebel all her life which is why, I suspect, she went to Buckingham Palace wearing a Tesco outfit. "A grey coat, £19.99, jolly smart," she says. "I suppose I did it in a kind of nostalgic mood and... yes," she concedes, "maybe there was a bit of that anti-establishment 'I'll show 'em' feeling about it."

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Aids: reducing the risks as doctors search for a cure

aids Aids is primarily a sexually-transmitted disease, but despite the misleading term the Gay Plague, it has not been confined to homosexuals in the past, and in future it will certainly become increasingly common in the heterosexual community. Unlike the plague, which was flea-borne and therefore liable to attack anybody, the Aids virus, HTLVIII, is spread in the main through sexual intercourse.

Of those who are infected, 90 per cent are likely to remain well. With the plague the actual death rate in parts of East Anglia rose to 50 per cent of the population; by the very nature of its pathology Aids can never produce a disaster on this scale. The Aids virus is known to be carried in blood, semen and human milk. Experience shows that it is almost certainly present in vaginal and cervical secretions. It can be demonstrated in saliva and tears, but there is evidence for supposing that in these fluids it may well be present in a latent form and not infectious.

Studies of infected families have shown that only the children born or suckled after the mother was infected have developed the disease; older children born before Aids was introduced into the family circle, and foster children (two groups who would have used the same cutlery, played the same games and received, one assumes, the same amount of kissing) have remained healthy.

If young children are not infected while enjoying close family life, it is most unlikely that the glass in the homosexual's pub represents any menace. As with any other sexually-transmitted disease, the chance of catching it increases with the number of sexual contacts and their promiscuity. It was to be expected that the first cases in heterosexuals would be found in

MEDICAL BRIEFING

the partners of bisexual men, in people who have been transfused with blood or blood products, or drug addicts who have caught the virus from contaminated needles. These cases are already occurring. There is already evidence from the United States, Germany, Austria and Africa that an unacceptably high number of prostitutes are now HTLVIII-positive. The results of a survey carried out on London prostitutes to assess their HTLVIII state has not yet been announced, but there is no reason to suppose that it will give results any different from other European countries.

Given the present pattern of the disease, the wise man or woman will modify his or her sex life. It would obviously be as well to avoid intercourse with a bisexual or the very promiscuous. Casual sexual contacts should also be avoided as there is statistical evidence that not

oral sex, unless there is bleeding.

Kissing, as saliva contains the virus, is a theoretical risk, but has never been shown to cause infection; even so, it is recommended that deep kissing with promiscuous or casual contacts is unwise. The chance of infection occurring during mutual masturbation is minimal.

An AIDS epidemic may well influence the type of contraception used. The construction of the sheath is such that if it remains intact it will contain the HTLVIII virus; whereas both the Pill and the IUD tend to increase the vascularity of the cervix which then bleeds more readily thereby increasing the danger of spreading the disease to the male partner, or being infected by the semen through a raw surface.

People who are HTLVIII-positive should not have casual partners and should seek the advice of the specially-trained counsellors who may be seen at many of the major units. They will give advice on all aspects of the patient's lifestyle, including detailed advice on sexual relations.

In view of the present situation it seems that the free and easy approach to sexual matters which started in the 1960s and 1970s, will now have to be abandoned until a vaccine can be produced.

There is some good news for would-be libertines. Research workers at the Institut Pasteur in Paris have shown the virus which causes a wasting disease in sheep has a structure very similar to that of HTLVIII. The similarity of these two viruses means that the research work done on the virus over the last two years will form the foundation for future work on a vaccine against HTLVIII.

In America, Texan scientists are about to start animal trials on a vaccine they have discovered. In either case it may be many years before an efficient safe vaccine can be recommended for public use.

Sexual freedom faces a shake-up

only may people be more liable to become infected with HTLVIII virus if they are suffering from other sexually-transmitted diseases, particularly herpes, cytomegalovirus, syphilis, NSU or gonorrhoea, but they are more likely to develop the full Aids syndrome. These diseases may act as co-factors.

The risk ratio of any contact in future will be a factor which some people will take into account before having intercourse, but sexual drive being as strong as it is, discretion will often be rejected in favour of excitement when this happens the type of sexual activity may be important in determining the chances of catching a disease. Vaginal or anal intercourse presents a greater hazard than

Hay fever: the good and bad news

Dr Roland Davies, reader in mycology at the department of medical microbiology at St Mary's Hospital, writing in *Pulse*, relates changing agricultural practices and weather to the pollen count in Italy, Brussels and London.

When the pollen count (24 hourly mean pollen grain concentration per cubic millimetre) reaches 50, hay fever sufferers start to sniff and sneeze.

Recently, he has noted, this has happened less often as the average pollen count has been falling, but it is uncertain whether these changes are the result of the climate or farming and what the long-term effects of a lower pollen count will be on his patients.

Farmers have switched from traditional hay making, which filled the atmosphere with pollen, to mechanical silage production, in which the grass is cut earlier, while it still has a high moisture content, and before it has flowered. Grass mixtures have changed, two of the great hay producers, Cocksfoot and Timothy, are less often included and have been replaced by the new commonly-sown rye grasses which are poor pollen producers.

But if hay fever victims expect that modern farming will end their summer misery they may be disappointed, for Dr Davies points out that hay fever was unknown in the 18th century when people lived on the land and were subjected to small doses of pollen throughout the year, derived from a

great variety of wild grasses in the summer and from hay in the winter.

Hay fever started to be a problem in the 19th century when additional acres of grassland were cultivated to help feed the increasingly urban population who were only subjected to pollen for a short time each year.

If the trend to lower pollen counts continues, Dr Davies thinks it is probable that patients will become more sensitive to lower doses. Having received less exposure to pollen in the other months of the year, the impact in June will be correspondingly greater.

Medical advice is simple: a pre-seasonal course of injections for hyposensitization which is best administered in winter, and the use of the new antihistamines which, as they do not penetrate the brain, do not cause sleepiness and are compatible with safe driving, and can even be mixed with alcohol.

Snoring can be a warning

A quick walk along the corridor past the bedrooms of the Reform Club confirms a recent Canadian research study published in the *British Medical Journal* that more than 42 per cent of people snore and that the incidence increases with age. A previous study of 6,000 people living in San Marino, Italy, suggests that by the time men are 70 more than 60 per cent snore.

However common the symptom may be, it can be a warning of ill health. High blood pressure and chest and heart diseases

were found to be more common in those who snore than in the rest of the population, even when allowance had been made for the association between snoring and obesity, smoking and alcohol consumption.

Doctors have suggested that the increase in these diseases may be related to the pulmonary hypertension which is known to occur during snoring.

Raising the sperm count

Discussions on test-tube babies have tended to regard the technique as a means of satisfying the maternal longing of the childless woman. It has been treated as a woman's problem, so that when Parliament has discussed the matter the predominant number of male MPs have concentrated more on the ethical problems raised by the necessary research than on the effect it might have on patients' emotions and the influence on their marriages.

Recent research has shown that in vitro fertilization may, in some cases, be an effective method of overcoming infertility due to a low sperm count, a problem for which present treatment is unsatisfactory. This method has recently been shown to be useful in cases where the quality of the sperm has been affected by Hodgkin's disease.

It remains to be seen what effect this broadening of the use of in vitro fertilization to help male as well as female infertility will have on the political arguments.

Dr Thomas Stuttford

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			Stranded Mink Jackets	£2,800	£995
			Silver Fox Coats	£9,999	£2,025
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T279

THE TIMES DIARY

Ring of confidentiality

The Government is carrying out a secret investigation into art dealers' auction rings. Yesterday an eminent figure in the arts world told me he had received a strictly confidential letter from the Trade and Industry Department asking for information about the rings, and appealing for suggestions as to how the Government should deal with the problem. He said other private individuals – as well as top auctioneers, dealers and museums – had been similarly approached. Asked about the inquiry, a Trade and Industry spokesman said: "We are not doing anything." She later rang back and conceded the Government is looking at ways in which loopholes in the law can be blocked. Says my source: "It is frightfully confidential, but I can't see why. There are fears that dealers and auctioneers will collude, and it has been suggested a Commons select committee be set up, which can call on the experts individually. Last winter an alleged 'ring' was raised in the House after being exposed in *The Times*."

Nothing doing

Spot the difference. Five tabloids yesterday happily ran this advertisement:



ment for Burton's unaltered. But not the *Daily Mail*. "It would offend our readers," they told Burton's ad director Richard Birchall. The pants are not for sale.

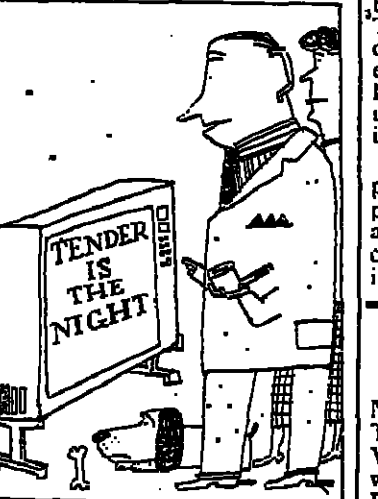
Non-chat show

NUJ journalists at BBC TV yesterday voted to refuse to speak to the deputy head of current affairs, Hugh Williams, unless he is accompanied by department head Peter Pagnamenta. They claim Williams broke a virtual promise to find more work for two contract producers, John Mair (of *London Play*) and Keith Hulse (of *Newsnight*) who have between them notched up 17 years at BBC HQ. The pair have just been told their services are no longer required. It must be quite a shock to both men: Mair wrote this week, in a chatty diary in the BBC house magazine *Ariel*, "What a varied life it is in current affairs..."

Continental shift

I doubt Prince "cygnet" William will be sent to Prince Charles' prep school, Cheam, in Berkshire, judging by the extraordinary changes currently being imposed by the new headmaster, Christopher Everett. In a letter passed to me by a distraught parent, Everett, the ex-Tonbridge head, says: "Having been here for a week... I have decided that the names of (school houses) Australia, New Zealand, Canada and particularly South Africa, are no longer appropriate. I have decided to use the names of four former Headmasters'." South Africa is renamed after Prince Charles' old head, Beck, who ironically said when accepting Prince Charles in 1957 that "small boys are usually conservative, and too many changes disturb their sense of security." Everett goes on to announce the opening of a tuck shop, where boys will be allowed to spend a princely 30p a week, and pocket money goes up to £5 a term. Boys should present in Prince Charles' day they get 25p a term, equivalent to £9.91.

BARRY FANTONI



Ground swell

Here's a tale to hearten PC David Kitcher, the Dulwich bobby whose bicycle was stolen while he was lecturing on crime prevention (Diary this week). The day our article appeared reader Peter Freedman was on his way to a funeral in south London, but he got separated from the cortege and ended up in a back street, hopelessly lost. Whereupon Kitcher howled into view (on foot) and gave Freedman directions. "If he hadn't lost his bike he wouldn't have been there to help me," Freedman told me. "It meant such a lot to me to get to the funeral. That bobby is worth all the bikes he'll ever lose."

PHS

How Britain can buy jobs

Sir Basil Feldman, chairman of this year's Conservative conference, calls for government help to stem imports

Tackling unemployment is a subject at the top of every political agenda in this autumn conference season. There is no lack of appreciation of the economic and social imperatives involved: but there is little agreement between politicians, economists and commentators on how to crack the problem.

One of the most avoidable and unfair causes of growing unemployment is the success of imports in our home markets. This year's paint a stark picture which cries out for practical action. During the early months of this year, the volume of manufactured goods imported into the UK was 40 per cent above the levels of 1980 before taking account of inflation, and was running at an annual rate of nearly £60 billion. Over the same five-year period, the number employed in UK manufacturing industry has fallen by some 1.5 million, to about 5.5 million.

The proportion of imports in the UK market for manufactured goods has risen from 29 per cent to 33 per cent over the last three years alone, and among metal goods, vehicles and engineering goods taken together, the figure is now over 40 per cent. In clothing, imports are about one-third of the market. The reasons for these high levels of imports and their corresponding effect on UK employment, are complex. It would be naive to assume, with our structure of trade

and natural resources, that we shall not continue to be a major importer. But we still import a significantly higher proportion of our requirements than our competitors.

Equally, it would be foolish to assume that UK manufacturers can recapture all the markets they have lost in the last few years. In many cases firms which have hung on are just too small to compete: in extreme cases, whole sectors of industry no longer exist.

Nevertheless the commercially-based substitution of imports by UK-produced goods and thus the clawing back of lost markets carries great potential for job creation and preservation. Furthermore, it does not carry with it the inflation associated with so many other palliatives.

Some have attempted to elevate import substitution by over-hyped and underdeveloped "Buy British" campaigns, to the accompaniment of waving flags, roaring lions and barking bulldogs. But these have largely come and gone as fast as they were conceived because they were not based on anything commercially tangible.

What is needed is an approach

firmly based on the commercial realities of the marketplace. A frosty indifference has been displayed by the official economic establishment towards import substitution. In contrast to the official support, both moral and financial, for export promotion, action on imports is pushed into the background. The official view is that formal government support for important substitution is contrary to international obligations arising from Britain's membership of the EEC and GATT, though not all of our international competitors see things quite that way.

Two highly successful Better Made in Britain exhibitions were launched in 1983 and 1984, in which major high street retailers displayed imported products that they would happily consider buying in this country if price, design quality and availability could be competitive. The exhibitions' "public" was UK manufacturers.

We estimate that as a result of the first two exhibitions, £100 million of previously imported clothing, knitwear and footwear will be made in British factories, with measurable commercial benefits to the retailers

and many thousands of British jobs directly and indirectly created or saved.

There is little doubt that this concept can be adapted and extended to many other manufacturing industries. This is already beginning to happen. The National Economic Development Council has a new task force, which should take us the following practical suggestions:

● A national computer facility to provide buyers of imported goods with accurate, up-to-date knowledge about alternative, commercially competitive UK sources.

● Better Made in Britain competitions could be held in factories and retail stores, primed by government funding.

● The Government could make it known that key job-creating performers would be singled out for appropriate honours.

● Workers in manufacturing industries, retailers, buyers and the shopping public must be made aware of the drive to save and create jobs at home. There should be a "Job Mark" campaign with a highly visible label like the Woolmark, jointly funded by participating companies and the government.

The author writes until recently chairman of the National Economic Development Office's Clothing EDC. He is chairman of the Better Made in Britain campaign.

Beatrix Campbell charts a change in Labour's sources of inspiration

A leading role for the new New Left



Lessons have been learnt enthusiastically. That experience forms the only innovative element in Hattersley's economic strategy.

The party's economic sphere is being managed by reformers rooted in a realism about the failures of industrial democracy, nationalization and planning agreements in the 70s. They are not so much against these things as uninspired by them, partly because of the evidence of capital's resistance, and partly because of the labour movement's indifference. The result: realism becomes pluralism. They are for anything that expands social ownership and control, from limited nationalization to workers' co-ops.

There is nothing energizing Roy Hattersley from the labour movement left. This is a reflection of the malaise of the movement; bewildered, frightened, isolated.

A major era of reform needs the resonance of a popular movement for change. The last word was generated such a sense of power in the people. Now there is a mass experience of powerlessness and alienation from the processes of politics.

Women, because they have the culture of feminism as a reference point outside the party, have challenged the old ways the most strongly. The clash between patriarchal Labourism and these new progressives is noisier around the cluster of committees set up by Michael Meacher: on poverty, taxation and social security.

Before the last election, Eric Heffer, despite posing as a pro-feminist, tried to block the insertion in the manifesto of the case for transferring the married man's tax allowance to the child benefit, as a redistribution in favour of women, on the grounds that "the lads won't stand for it".

Some are clearly still troubled by this commitment. It has come up in Meacher's committees but has met formidable protagonists, particularly the feminists. The Treasury lobby still seemed worried that if Hattersley was seen to be opposing tax relief for men that would be bad for Labour.

Hattersley's very worried about the working class male, recalled one of the participants in the debates.

What none of them seem to have registered is that while women may not have organized political clout, there are still an awful lot of women out there who vote and who haven't yet had the opportunity to vote for a party that is for them and that is prepared to "take on the lads"; in other words, to take responsibility for an economic and cultural revolution. Despite the recidivists, the argument appears to have been won and Meacher seems keen to support radical redistribution.

A socialist agenda is almost inconceivable in the political conditions of the 1980s, but a strong and sensitive intervention of the left is imperative if Labour is to succeed where it failed in the 1970s.

As Benn has reminded us, the problem for Labour then was not that it was reformist, but that it failed to reform. It is already apparent that although the Labour leadership is leading from the right, insofar as it is reformist at all, it is dependent on the initiatives of the left.

Extracted from an article in the October issue of *Marxism Today*, published today.

Danube dam turns Hungarians blue

Nagyamros, Hungary. The steamer to Budapest from Vienna has long been a favoured way of travelling between the two Danube capitals. The great river winds past the gaunt turrets of Bratislava Castle and crosses marshy plain before entering its most picturesque passage: the Danube bend.

At the narrowest part of the bend lie the ruins of Visegrad, once the favourite seat of the celebrated Hungarian King Matthias Corvinus. His court here, observed a papal legate, resembled an "earthly paradise". On the opposite bank is the hamlet of Nagyamros, where, in a decision which has angered many Hungarians, the government decided to go ahead with the construction of a joint Czech-Hungarian hydroelectric power station.

Last year, more than 6,000 signatures were gathered, many from

prominent figures in Hungarian academic and artistic life, to protest at the scheme. "Not least of the reasons for many Hungarians' hostility is the extravagant cost of the work. The Hungarian press has never mentioned any figures but it is widely believed to be at least some £1 billion, and some Hungarian scientists have talked of £1.5 billion.

Cost apart, the digging of a new bed for the Danube is believed to endanger rare species of fish and other river life. The example last year of the influential Greens in neighbouring Austria, who forced their government to shelve plans for a hydroelectric power station at Hainburg further up the Danube, also looms large. Vienna's retreat on the issue was watched with keen interest, and Hungarian politicians are bracing themselves for protests from local environmentalists.

The first signs of an organized pressure group comparable to the Greens of Western Europe appeared in Budapest last week. The "Blues", inspired perhaps by Johann Strauss,

have set about lobbying parliamentary representatives.

The Blues pointed out in letters the ecological effects of the dam and reiterated fears of scientists that the project will endanger drinking water in settlements around the Danube bend. Prominent Hungarians have also been asked to lobby their representatives in parliament.

If the Blues develop into a well-organized pressure group, it will be a remarkable achievement for a Communist country. They will be assisted by at least two factors. First and foremost, one of the most disagreeable aspects of the project for the Magyars is cooperation with the Czechoslovaks, whom Hungarians traditionally view with suspicion.

Second, the Blues appear to enjoy considerable support in the Hungarian establishment, many of whom have been stalling for years to prevent the scheme. Their reluctance is illustrated by their failure to draw up the relevant plans even

after the Czechoslovaks had poured considerable money and resources into their side of the project. Some Western diplomats did not rule out the possibility that the anonymous blues could turn out to be working hand in hand with a government eager for reasons to delay which it can present to Prague.

Whether the government secretly favours the Blues or not, they have launched a campaign to win Hungarians' hearts. A prize of about £250,000 has been offered to any architect designing a scheme for Nagyamros which harmonizes with the landscape of the Danube bend. Radio and television have given wide coverage to the recreation complex which is planned to accompany the dam. Bridges will be lower, cables will be laid underground. It will require all the Blues' resources to achieve, even in what is styled the most liberal of the Warsaw Pact countries, any of the success of the Austrian Greens.

Richard Bassett

David Watt

Why patience will pay at the UN

The UN General Assembly opened in New York last week – and hardly anyone took any notice. The fact that this is the UN's 40th anniversary prompted a few questions in the papers, but apart from professional diplomats not many really care about the answers.

Having just paid a visit, for the first time in about 10 years, to that strange temple of the winds on the bank of the East River, I have sympathy with this general lethargy. Nothing seems to have changed since I was last there. From the moment they issue you the wrong pass, to the moment you stagger on to First Avenue with the last piece of simultaneously translated propaganda ringing in your ears, the overwhelming impression is still of boredom and humbug. Why should anyone who is not being paid for the penance give the slightest attention to what is going on there?

There seem to be three rational answers. The first is that it actually doesn't matter much at all. Such has been the real position of most of the western powers during the last five years. We have gone on our own ways and tried to regard the UN as a mild nuisance to be brushed aside when its activities have threatened to interfere with us or put us in the dock.

The second view is that the UN matters very much because it can be manipulated by one's enemies to intimidate and detach one's friends and even to undermine popular support in one's own country. This is now emerging as the Reagan administration's dominant attitude, after a longish period in which the first dismissive answer held sway in Washington. One version of the new attitude was articulated this week by Senator Daniel Moynihan on this page.

At the UN's anniversary celebrations in San Francisco in July, the Secretary of State, George Shultz, said the US had made a mistake in withdrawing from the UN "in spirit if not in fact" because this allowed others (i.e., the Soviet Union) to use the new "party system" of voting by blocks to wield influence and to affect both the image and reality of power in the UN system and beyond it. Henceforth, said Shultz, the US would take the votes and decisions of UN bodies seriously and play a "forceful role" to protect its interests and its friends from unfair attacks.

This second answer is essentially that of the superpower and would no doubt be echoed in the Kremlin: there, UN votes have been taken seriously since 1951, when a Soviet withdrawal "left the way open for the Americans to hijack the UN and fly to Moscow. To a lesser extent it is also the answer of the small Third World countries for whom the UN provides one of the few means of exerting a little pressure on the larger powers and of cutting a dash on the international stage.

Both these reactions are self-interested. The third answer is that of the benevolent and disinterested Martian, who wants what is best for the world rather than for one country. As far as I know, no Martians have pronounced that the UN has no importance or is a negative force in world affairs. A number of people continue to propound a sophisticated case for the organization. The most interesting among them seems to me to be Brian Urquhart, the

British Under-Secretary-General, who has been a leading influence in the UN since its inception. Being on the verge of retirement, he has been able to afford a very frank interview in the magazine *Africa Report*.

His position is roughly this: the great powers are largely powerless when it comes to solving the world's problems – partly because they insist on polarizing the issues with oversimplified ideologies and cancelling out each other's efforts, partly because (thanks to the revolutions in warfare and technology) power itself is paralysed.

Admittedly the UN has failed to fill this vacuum with the authority that its founding fathers half-wished that it should create, but it has at least provided a framework for a new balance of relationships.

The core of this new system, according to Urquhart, is the Third, non-aligned, World, which forms a "depolarizing constituency". He concedes that these nations are in too much of a hurry and often unreasonable, but believes that the West should have the patience to realize that:

● "A very strong, positive and moderate 'mainstream' is evolving in the Third World;

● The Third World is disillusioned with Marxism and is "looking to 1776 rather than 1848 for inspiration";

● the UN gives the Third World a platform where it can rally as well as learn.

Having spent four days listening to an astounding quantity of cant on economic sanctions against South Africa (which, incidentally, Urquhart daringly rejects in his interview) I admit that the patience involved in adopting the third answer would be almost superhuman.

But neither of the alternatives is terribly attractive. The first is suspect on any but a very short time scale because it is static and defensive, because it implies that public opinion in the democratic countries will always be indifferent to international opinion, and because it assumes that power relationships are rarely affected by stances at the UN.

This is not necessarily the case now and it is likely to be even less so as the power and coordination of the non-aligned countries grows during the next 20 or 30 years.

The Shultz thesis looks more realistic in the medium term and it is certainly true that in treating the UN like a kind of House of Representatives, where loose coalitions operate and individuals can be dragged by a crude system of arm-twisting and rewards the Americans are at least implying an analogy they understand. But this model too has drawbacks in the long run, for it takes no account of the possibility that Urquhart is right. If a Third World alliance does manage to break the mould of world politics, the terms on which it deals with the First World will be powerfully affected by its previous treatment.

That is why the shrillness of Jean Kirkpatrick and the aggressiveness of Shultz and Moynihan are disturbing, and why Urquhart's appeal for tolerance inside and outside the UN chimes with self-interest as well as human sympathy.

moreover... Miles Kington

Melancholier than thou

"There is nothing more melancholy," said a man in the pub the other night, "than coming across an old photograph of a very pretty girl inscribed 'Love from Monica and not remembering who Monica was'."

He was Irish, of course. Only the Irish would pick the right word like "melancholy". But I wouldn't give him the satisfaction. "Oh yes, there is," I said. "There is nothing more melancholy than coming home from a trip abroad and finding that you've still got your hotel bedroom key in your pocket."

He smiled lugubriously. "Well, what about hailing an empty taxi and seeing it swerve into the pavement for someone younger and prettier than you? Can anything be more bitter-sweet than that?"

Bitter-sweet? Where do these Irish get the words from? I pretended not to notice. "Certainly. How about hailing an empty taxi and seeing it dip into the pavement for someone older and plainer than you?"

After that we pooled resources in the melancholy stakes and came up with the following list. In other words, can anything be more saddening than this...

● Reading in the newspaper about someone with the same name as yours.

● Getting a wrong number on the telephone from someone with a very sexy voice, and having to ring off.

● Tuning into some wonderful music on a foreign radio programme and hearing it gradually fade into nothing.

● Knowing the answer to a *Mastermind* question which the contestant doesn't and not knowing any of the subsequent 20.

● Taking the dance floor to a great tune which finishes seven seconds later.

● Thinking up the ideal remark in a conversation and not being able to work it in until 10 minutes later, when the subject has changed entirely.

● Missing a motorway exit.

● Suddenly seeing yourself in a mirror, and not recognizing who it is.

● Starting a newspaper article by somebody you have always agreed

with, then realizing half way through that he is talking rubbish and you are not quite sure if he is wrong or you are.

● Getting a dish in a restaurant which you always cook better.

● Seeing an old movie on TV which was great when you first saw it and has meanwhile moved down four or five divisions.

● Being unable to find your own way out of a motorway service area.

● Finding all your pyjamas in the wash.

● Finding a concoction in the fridge which you can't remember cooking.

● Realizing too late, as you put on a gumboot, that your foot is not the only thing in it, and not knowing what the other things are.

● Ringing someone's number, going into a daydream, then, when someone answers, not remembering who you have rung.

● Never being able to find anyone who can tell you what those motorway signs with yellow rectangles, squares and lozenges mean, but assuming that it's something to do with cruise missiles and not feeling such comfort by the thought.

● Stapling two pieces of paper together with a stapler which contains no staples.

● Reading the ingredients list on a food package.

● Seeing your favourite musician on 15 sets in a TV rental shop, and not being able to hear him on any of them.

● Walking into a door which normally opens automatically.

● Missing another motorway exit.

● Watching a bright blue day cloud over during breakfast.

● Removing a short loose thread from a garment and watching it develop into a very long thread.

● Realizing you have got shaving foam on your ear-lobes and must have done all day and nobody bothered to tell you.

● Finding a phone number on a piece of paper, with no name attached.

● Finally leaving a motorway and running straight into a traffic jam.

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WE MAKE IT, THEY TAKE IT

The edifice of speeches that the Shadow Chancellor has been constructing shows that the Labour party has learnt something. Mr Roy Hattersley's economic strategy demonstrates how his party has noticed that voters do tend to inquire the price of public spending. Even the politics of envy now stop short of support for the confiscatory marginal tax rates imposed by the last Labour Government. Mr Hattersley's discretion on the matter of wage policy suggests that even Labour has come to fear the inflationary power of the public sector unions, though whether it would have the political muscle to resist them is another matter. And Labour has swallowed the fact that many of the slaves of the council housing system do want to own their own homes.

Yet Mr Hattersley's speeches demonstrate that Labour has still not begun to understand the mainstays of enterprise. The Labour party still seemingly believes that it is governments who create wealth. It believes that Government should direct savings and investment. There is a world of contrast between the designs of Mr Hattersley, as outlined on Tuesday, and the reflections of Mr Nigel Lawson to the Stock Exchange last night. For all their faults, this Government and this Chancellor have clung to their basic faith in the fertility and freedom of private enterprise, when even the big industrial lobbies would have led them astray. Mr Lawson's lecture last night laid vital stress on profitability, where Mr Hattersley harps on government control. Mr Lawson points to the increase in investment; and, small but most significant, in risk investment; £10 million of venture capital invested in 1979, £284 million in 1984, so that this source of entrepreneurial vigour now compares favourably with

the proportion of national income invested similarly in the United States. He points to the number of new small businesses being formed: 9,000 new registrations for VAT a month during the first half of this year, and an excess over the number disappearing off the register that has averaged over 500 a week since 1980.

Mr Lawson points to the growth in self-employment, where Britain is at last creeping back towards the average for successful industrial countries; and to the reversal of the long decline in personal share ownership, the individual's stake in industrial success. Mr Hattersley, by contrast, would still rationalize: in an interview in *Marxism Today* he commits himself to taking both British Telecom and British Airways back into state hands.

The centrepiece of Mr Hattersley's scheme is a plan which would oblige pension funds, entrusted with the savings of ordinary people, either to suffer tax penalties or to abandon the search for the best returns available in today's expanding international capital markets and put a proportion of their money in the hands of a government agency, whose investment criteria would be at the mercy of politicians seeking to buy votes. Such a plan would directly discriminate against individuals, since Mr Hattersley has so far concentrated on portfolio investment; companies, presumably, would remain free to invest in manufacturing capacity abroad until Labour realized the problems involved in making such a distinction.

One must then note, in passing, the irony of Mr Hattersley's impact on the third world, about which Labour professes to care more than the Government. At a time when all the international financial institutions

are urging an increase in private investment - including portfolio investment - in developing countries, Mr Hattersley is proposing to slam the lid on British funds. Yet neither of these criticisms go to the heart of the trouble. It is the incomprehension these policies suggest of the freedom necessary to nurture the enterprise culture; the obstinate belief that Government knows best.

To disagree with Mr Hattersley, it is not necessary to go to the other extreme. Modern government forms such a large part of any developed economy that its behaviour must affect our economic performance, for which it cannot escape responsibility. Government has a real and unending responsibility, too, for helping to make markets work better.

One of these, touched on by Mr Lawson, is the chronic difficulty of raising equity at a certain stage in the life of a young company. There is a valuable place for the kind of agency of the kind that has developed into "3is" - Investors in Industry - provided its objectives remain clear and commercially sensible. There is a world of difference, again, between such an agency and Mr Hattersley's proposed National Investment Bank, designed to be all things to all manner of political pressures. Down that route should be hung all the rotting corpses of those lame ducks with which the taxpayer was saddled by Labour in the past, and which had to be slaughtered at such cost. Labour still fails to learn the lesson which has long been understood by Socialists in West Germany, and has been apprehended fast by France's socialist masters. The role of government is to oil the workings of the free enterprise economy; it does not make sense to wrench the engine out of the car first.

A SILLY SELF-DEFEATING GESTURE

The Government's agreement to fall into line with European thinking and withdraw its military attaches from Pretoria, looks depressingly like the wrong decision taken for the wrong reason. Britain was right and Europe was wrong, and for Whitehall to bow to the wishes of the majority is at best pusillanimous and unwise. The issues are far too important for that.

If ever there is a time when a country needs eyes and ears in South Africa it must surely be now. That these particular eyes and ears belong to trained military observers makes the Government's own decision seem all the more myopic. Not only that, but the two attaches concerned have been the only two left from the Community since the recent French decision to withdraw. For the Ten to pressure Britain into severing their last line of military communication to a country which looks like entering a period of profound, perhaps violent change, is negative and wrong.

Whether Britain and four other Community members concerned (West Germany, Italy, Portugal and Spain) will now demand the concomitant withdrawal of existing South African defence attaches in Europe, remains to be seen. Their presence here is the less important issue. On the other hand one should perhaps also question whether this kind of political ostracism has real, still less significant value. One withdraws envoys to convey displeasure. But not even the most intransigent Boer can surely now believe that this or any other western country approves of his government's racial laws?

The only thing to be said about this particular item in the EEC's list of restrictive measures is that it represents the one white rabbit in a package of political legerdemain which is otherwise transparently thin. Measures affecting the export or import of arms, the sale of North Sea oil, official sporting links or nuclear collaboration, do little more than endorse current Government

policy or reflect a known situation. Even that part which affects our cultural relations with South Africa - another provision, like that on military attaches, which gave Whitehall some pause - is unlikely to impinge upon the present policy of the British Council.

There are positive steps which Europe can take towards improving the plight of the blacks in South Africa. This country has in a modest way taken some of these already - and the other list of measures agreed by the Community ministers this month, should further this process. The strengthening of the EEC code of conduct for firms, the provision of more help for clever, underprivileged young blacks, are perhaps most effective in reflecting our attitude and our willingness to help. But we remain opposed to sanctions, not just the economic sanctions on which the Government still stands firm but also to those which cut off our lines of official communication to the Cape. This is political posturing which does little of use for anyone.

NOT JUST SAFE, BUT SUCCESSFUL

The new health minister Mr Barney Hayhoe has soon to consider his response to the motion at the Conservative Party Conference that calls upon the Government to "counteract effectively the charges of a health service in decline". The health debate at Blackpool ought to be an important one. It is the issue - above even unemployment - on which Labour strategists think they have the Government on the run. The defensive response that the "health service is safe with us" is manifestly not enough. Mr Hayhoe needs to show that the Conservatives have positive plans for the health service, not merely an embattled acceptance of it.

The persistent claim that the NHS is underfunded and many of its staff poorly paid has become part of socialist mythology. With the moves by this Government to put ancillary services out to tender the myth has developed of a plan by which fat cats from the private sector deprive thousands of COHSE and NUPE members of their jobs and then exploit a non-unionized labour force to maximize their profits irrespective of the effect upon patients. This is a travesty of the significant progress that has been made in making the NHS more accountable, in providing better value for money, and in trying to offer a better service to patients. But it is a travesty that is believed by Conservative as well as Labour supporters.

forms of its management structure. The NHS has great potential for innovation and better services. But development of this potential will require allowing management the freedom that it needs to manage, which in turn demands a more realistic attitude to change from both white-collar and blue-collar workers. The health unions are putting obstacles in the path of better use of resources by resisting the privatization of ancillary services. The failure of consultants to agree to changes in the staffing structure for hospital doctors - for which the Public Accounts Committee criticized them last week - is an equal example of obstructive self-interest.

The National Association of Health Authorities has proposed this week a form of payment by results for NHS employees, which would at least go some way to satisfying the longing of Mr Victor Paine, the NHS General Manager, for there to be more incentives for staff in a health service. The NAHA also proposes a form of local bargaining, which in creating purchasing power for the individual employing authorities would allow more control for managers, and give them more incentives and opportunities to secure the best value, chances currently denied by the rigid NHS review bodies and Whitley councils.

With a commercialized management structure the DHSS should seek to interfere in the running of the health service as infrequently as is commensurate with its statutory duties. In addition to the 1 per cent real increase in NHS spending per annum, the steady replacement of old hospitals by new district general hospitals and the arrangements being made with the private sector for sharing new technology, Mr Hayhoe has a valuable asset in his managers, the renewal of whose contracts depends on their ability to improve services. No government has ever given such incentives to provide a good service. It must ensure managers are allowed to use their judgement to maximize their success, and the best move the Government can make to allow that is to remind the trade unionists and professional bodies who stand in the way that their intransigence harms patients and limits choice.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How to safeguard children at risk

From Professor Antony Allott
Sir, We shall never avoid entirely the horrifying cases of child abuse that we have seen recently. But we could reduce their number by a simple legal change. In many of these cases social workers and others have been fobbed off by lies and excuses when they have tried to see a child believed to be at risk - with all the terrible results we know of. We need an intermediate power between mere enquiry and a place of safety order. If goods are missing suspected, the police can obtain a search warrant. I suggest that we provide for a "child production order", obtainable confidentially upon sworn evidence from a magistrate (so that informants would be protected). Only persons with an official position could obtain such an order, which would require a named person (usually a parent) to produce a named child for inspection. This is not an invasion of civil liberties - no crime is alleged, no punishment imposed. Indeed, it is founded on a deep concern for the liberty of a vulnerable child not to be abused or - at worst - condemned to death. Yours faithfully, ANTONY ALLOTT, 21 Windsor Road, Finchley, N3, September 26.

Retirement at 60

From Mr Alan J. Grigg
Sir, Those who consider that enforced retirement at 60 for women is discrimination against them have adopted an inverted view of the problem. The present situation in which women retire at 60 and men at 65 seems blatant discrimination against men. Many companies will not consider nowadays an applicant for a job over the age of 40 and some employers specify that their male employees retire at 60 in any case. If men and women were to receive State pension at 60 it is reasonable to assume that more jobs would be available at the other end of the age range, thus reducing the number of unemployed. It is surely more acceptable for the state to pay pensions rather than unemployment benefit and this would be less demoralising for us as a nation. With more people retiring at 60 one could expect continued growth of the leisure industries, especially as it is a widely accepted fact that if men retire at 60 and not 65 they can expect a much longer and fitter retirement. It is a pity that the political parties do not address themselves to this issue. Instead we hear only of the cost to the Exchequer of pensions without any attempt to balance the cost against significant gains, not least the removal of a major obstacle to equality between the sexes. Yours faithfully, A. J. GRIGG, Headmaster, Wellington School, Carleton Turrets, Ayr, September 20.

Safety at UN building

From Mr Keith Hindell
Sir, Mr Leopold Kohr (September 15) is basing his criticism of the United Nations on poor evidence. The UN building on the East River is undoubtedly one of the safer parts of New York. Despite the presence of hundreds of diplomats from volatile countries there has never been a serious terrorist incident inside the complex. The same cannot be said of the House of Commons. In recent years the worst outrage was carried out in 1980 by two American Maoists who poured red paint over the Russian and American ambassadors in the Security Council Chamber. The immediate result was to improve personal rapport between the two. At least they went off arm in arm dabbing their spots. Since then security in the building has been stepped up and many offensive weapons have been taken off visitors doing the tour. Unhappily, but not surprisingly, this improved security system has had no knock-on effect on the ability of the organisation to safeguard international peace. Yours sincerely, KEITH HINDELL, (BBC UN Correspondent, 1980-84), 6 Lovelace Road, Dulwich, SE21, September 21.

Talks with Israel

From Mr Clemens N. Nathan
Sir, Mr Faisal Aoudha's letter (September 23) omits to mention the sworn covenant for all members of the PLO for the total destruction of the State of Israel. Yours faithfully, CLEMENS N. NATHAN, President, Anglo-Jewish Association, Woburn House (5th Floor), Upper Woburn Place, WC1, September 23.

Recorded time

From Sir Peter Masefield
Sir, How good to see (*The Times*, September 5) G. J. Churchward's splendid 4-4-0 locomotive, no 3440, City of Truro back in steam, celebrating the GWR's 150th anniversary. But, Sir, your comment that, from 1904, this famous locomotive "remained the fastest machine until aeroplanes improved their speeds in the 1920s" is not precisely correct. On May 9, 1904, the City of Truro, under driver Moses Clements, was credited to have touched 102.3 mph for a quarter of a mile between Beam Bridge and Wellington with the ocean mails from Plymouth to London. This speed

Proposed reform of rating system

From Mr Stephen Fothergill and Ms Sarah Monk
Sir, Kenneth Baker's proposal to transfer the control of business rates from local to central government has superficial attractions. Businesses don't have a vote in local elections and if the principle of "no taxation without representation" is to mean anything, why should they therefore have to pay a property tax, which is locally determined? But wait: businesses don't have a vote in national elections either, yet they already pay national taxes such as corporation tax. At the national level, business interests can and do lobby vigorously over taxation issues; at the local level they are equally able to lobby, and their task is made easier by the large number of businessmen and traders who sit as local councillors. So where is the gain in democratic accountability to be had from transferring business rates from local to central government? Mr Baker's case, therefore, rests more on the harmful effects of high rates in particular areas. Here he seems to have ignored the findings of research sponsored by his own department. We recently undertook a study for the Department of the Environment into the effect of rates on local employment. It was the most comprehensive and detailed study of its kind to have been conducted, covering all local authority districts in England and Wales over a seven-year period and using several alternative measures of the rate burden. The study examined four sectors

separately - manufacturing, retailing, private sector offices and warehousing - and took account of other influences on local employment changes such as the mix of industries and the size of firms in the area. The findings, first looked in February this year, were that there is little if any evidence that high rates have a harmful effect on local employment levels. What is probably going on is that businesses are able to "pass on" the burden of rates - to consumers in the form of higher prices, for example, and to landlords in the form of lower rents. Their profits suffer only marginally, if at all. Moreover, rates form only a very small proportion of total costs, especially for manufacturing industry. Mr Baker's case begins to look increasingly threadbare. Maybe he should come clean about the real reasons for proposing to transfer business rates to central government. It has nothing to do with accountability, nor with the harmful effect of high rates in high-speeding local authority areas. It is another attempt to cut the level of taxation on business by transferring control of the tax to a government that will look favourably on businesses' special pleading. It is also another attempt to remove power from Labour authorities and curb their spending. Yours faithfully, STEPHEN FOTHERGILL, SARAH MONK, University of Cambridge, Department of Land Economy, 19 Silver Street, Cambridge, September 24.

Links with Rome

From the Right Reverend J. R. H. Moorman
Sir, In his article called "Perils of the slide towards Rome" (September 14) the Rev Dr David Samuel criticises the work of the Anglican/Roman Catholic International Commission as being not in accord with the teaching of the Church of England. But the ARCIC statements were a joint effort by Roman Catholics and Anglicans. This took the form of a dialogue, and the result was total agreement on both sides. Obviously it is not a Roman Catholic document, nor a statement of Anglican theology; but it expresses what a mixed group, on both sides of the great divide, feel is common ground. On this we were all agreed. There were no signs of disagreement whatever. The trouble is that Dr Samuel is living in the sixteenth century and expects the Church of England to do so also. For example, he treats the 39 Articles as an infallible document, quoting it over and over again to prove that Anglicans are right and Roman Catholics are wrong. But the Articles are not infallible and need not be rigidly held today.

Christians in Lebanon

From Mr Charles Glass
Sir, My memories of ante-bellum Christians in Lebanon differ sharply from those of Roger Scruton (September 17) who does not say how long he lived there. Most wealthy Lebanese, Christian and Muslim, held the Lebanese State, its institutions and its laws in contempt. Legal prohibitions against gun-running, smuggling, narcotics dealing and prostitution were circumvented by some and blatantly ignored by others. Christians and Muslims shared in the use of force, money and *wasta* (influence) to put themselves above the law. Mr Scruton notes the disparity between the news coverage of the massacres in the Sabra and Shatila camps in 1982 by the Christians and those of the Shiites in 1983, alleging that, in the latter case, "not a word is said". Many words have been said, and written, by journalists taking more

See, for example, no. 13, which says that "Works done before the grace of Christ, are not pleasant to God... They have the nature of sin". Surely no one can believe that today. Again, they accept the doctrine of predestination, which is an old belief no longer regarded as true. Dr Samuel also says that "the Articles teach that there is no change in the bread and wine" in the Eucharist. But the Articles do not say this at all. What they say is "The Bread which we break is a partaking of the Body of Christ; and likewise the Cup of Blessing is a partaking of the Blood of Christ" (no. 28). Somehow I feel that Dr Samuel has not really read the 39 Articles in spite of his belief in them. The ARCIC documents are an attempt to see what we have in common. We who worked very hard for thirteen years in producing them do not see them as a "slide towards Rome" but as a "step towards unity", which is something for which we all pray. Yours faithfully, JOHN R. H. MOORMAN, 23 Springwell Road, Durham, September 15.

Harrington question

From the Director of the Polytechnic of North London
Sir, You accuse (leading article, September 24) the Sheila Browne report on the Polytechnic of North London as having a lazy and cowardly paragraph (paragraph 53 on Mr Harrington). It is your editorial that is lazy and cowardly in not even referring to the enormous problems posed for an educational institution with a large number of ethnic minority students, which is sited in a multi-racial, deprived inner-city area, in having an active member of the National Front as a student. It is astonishing that so soon after the Handsworth riots you choose not to see the problems that this situation was bound to cause. Of course more students should take part in student union elections: of course PNL, like other large institutions, has problems with some of its staff and from political attempts to influence it, from both right and left. The job of the management is to find ways of coping with these issues and to enable the institution to carry on its educational business.

PNL has come far this year and is well on the way to getting its problems under control, but it would be foolish to think that the problems will not reflect, and inevitably be involved in, the social tensions in the society that surrounds it. Yours faithfully, JOHN BEISHON, Director, The Polytechnic of North London, 166-220 Holloway Road, N7, September 24.

Drawing of Alice

From Mr Sidney F. Sabin
Sir, The two reproductions you publish today (September 24) of Carroll's newly discovered drawing of Alice, and his photograph of her, leave no doubt that his drawing was not from life but copied from the photograph reproduced. Because of the drawing's shortcomings the author wisely must have decided against its publication. I remain Sir, your obedient servant, SIDNEY F. SABIN, Sabin Galleries Ltd, Campden Lodge, 82 Campden Hill Road, Kensington, W8, September 24.

ON THIS DAY

SEPTEMBER 27 1919

In July, 1918, the Tsar and his family were murdered. The following year saw intervention by the Allied Powers against the new regime in Russia. The White armies had some initial successes but within two years had collapsed. The Times Special Correspondent was Dr Harold Williams (1878-1928), who was appointed Foreign Editor in 1922.

DENIKIN ROUTS THE REDS.

DARING PLAN DEFEATED.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)
ROSTOFF, Sept. 10.
The impetus of the great Bolshevik drive is broken. Trotsky and his skilled military advisers had conceived a daring plan. By a heavy concentration of forces, including several strong divisions from the Siberian front, they aimed at catching in pincers Denikin's centre held by the Don Army, and on the one hand, driving in the wedge between the Don Army and the Volunteer Army east of Kharkoff and there forcing a way through the Donets basin to the sea of Azov, while on the eastern flank they hoped to overrun Wrangel's little Caucasian Army and to force a way through Tsaritsyn down the Volga to the Caspian...

The drive on the western flank brought the Reds to the important junction of Kupiansk, south-east of Kharkoff. But Trotsky's military resources were not equal to the execution of this typically German manoeuvre, and the Bolsheviks were caught in the wedge-shaped salient which the Russian Whites had planned. General Skuro let loose in the rear of the Reds his well-tried Kuban cavalry, and within three days sent a laconic telegram, "I am pounding them." At the same time the famous Kurnoff Regiment, clad in British uniforms and wearing British machine-guns, attacked the Bolsheviks in the flank. Kupiansk, Volchansk, and Valulki were recaptured, the Volunteer Army secured a vantage point at Novy Oskol, north of the salient, and the Bolsheviks, suffering heavy losses, caught like rats in a trap, surrendered. The Whites then moved on while the Reds desperately sought an outlet towards the north.

BOLD COSSACK RAIDS.

That is not all. At the present moment General Mamontoff is appearing on the scene. The bold Cossack general with the fierce hanging moustaches took very great risk by withdrawing most of the cavalry from the Don front and disappearing into the blue somewhere in the rear of the Bolshevik armies. For days nothing was heard of the effect of his Cossack capture of Tambov and Kozloff.

In the meantime the Don front, weakened by the withdrawal of the best troops, yielded to Bolshevik pressure, for the real strength of the Don Cossacks is in their irregular cavalry, and they are only now in process of being formed into a regular army. The situation developed into a duel between the Bolsheviks and Mamontoff. If they could succeed in scoring a decisive victory against the Don Army and Tsaritsyn they might still hope to mitigate the effects of the Mamontoff raid upon their bases. Otherwise their situation was serious. The Don Command sent aeroplanes to Mamontoff, and received from him startling news. He had seized Bolshevik stores in Tambov and Kozloff and sent to their homes 80,000 men mobilized by the Bolsheviks, whom he provided with food and clothing from Bolshevik stores. He caught a Bolshevik quartermaster, and learning from him that the chief base was in Ekaterin, the Orel government, made a sudden raid on that town, where he seized or destroyed immense booty and completely demolished a bridge on the railway leading northward. Thousands of volunteers joined his ranks, and he now has a considerable and well-armed infantry force. Two captured armoured trains are moving with him, and the panic among the Bolsheviks is so great that he moves at will, greeted everywhere with enthusiasm by the population...

TSARITSYN SAVED.

On September 5 the Reds received orders to take Tsaritsyn, and made heavy attacks on the fortified positions north of the town. I saw those positions a fortnight ago. They commanded a broad transverse valley with easy slopes, and to the right of them the Volga flowed in a broad blue stream. The Bolsheviks were an easy target for the batteries in their attempt to cross this broad, exposed valley, but, supported by the heavy fire of their flotilla on the Volga, they returned to the attack again and again. At midday they broke through on the left flank; but reserves drove them back to the river. At 2 o'clock Bolshevik horse and soldiers broke through on the right flank near the Volga and forced a way down to a big arsenal three miles north of the town. Then Wrangel personally took command, sent his escort to prevent the enemy entering the town, and flung his cavalry into the enemy's flank, completely smashing him. Large numbers were hacked and drowned, and the attack ended in complete failure.

In the meantime on the western flank, near the Don, the Bolshevik cavalry, under Budenny, tried to turn the fortified line, but they were met by the dashing Cossack General Lagai and his cavalry, who turned the Red offensive into a thorough rout and captured 4,000 prisoners...

Fond doubts

From Mr J. E. Rudde
Sir, I notice that one of the country's leading computer-dating agencies is currently advertising its services under the slogan, "For friendship, love or marriage". Are these now mutually exclusive? Yours faithfully, J. E. RUDDLE, 30 Hazelbank, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey, September 22.

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Markets and David Owen start to converge

The Chancellor's assertion that Britain has most to lose from higher protectionist barriers to international trade is debatable. What is unquestionable is that British industry, especially manufacturing industry, can only lose from a combination of high real interest rates (at 11 per cent the highest in Western Europe) and an overvalued currency. For the time being, since last weekend's Group of Five agreement to assist President Reagan's anti-protectionist cause by engineering the devaluation of the US dollar, Mr Lawson has committed us to both.

We have been through this loop before, in 1980-81 when sterling rose high real interest rates rose to 16 per cent. There was a stronger case for such a regime then: it was probably the only way to discipline employers who professed not to see the damage their ready agreement to excessive pay demands did to the anti-inflation cause.

That the cause has not yet succeeded completely by other powerful elements are now at work, not least the Government's future and the bearing on the result of the next general election of the unemployment problem. For Mrs Thatcher and her Chancellor to cut another swathe through the diminished ranks of British industry would, to put it mildly, not improve their electoral chances.

We are at last, beginning to get something of a national debate going about the future of manufacturing industry. Roy Hattersley is gradually unfolding the Labour Party's prescription and for the SDP, Dr David Owen is taking items out of his bag. To a generally receptive audience of business and City leaders, gathered by the American-European Community Association, he declared firmly in favour of lower interest rates ("I would cut rates by 2 per cent immediately") and our joining the mechanism of the European Monetary System as both a means of reducing sterling's volatility and a positive declaration of faith in the future of the European Community.

It would be folly in his view, to join the EMS, unless the pound first falls to under 70 on the trade-weighted index.

Dr Owen accepts that lower interest rates would probably put upward pressure on the exchange rate and therefore accepts some form of incomes policy to curb excessive pay settlements in the private sector. He is also in favour of a two-tier interest rate structure specifically to help manufacturing industry.

Dr Owen's political instincts are shrewd though his particular remedies may not be as efficacious as he suggests. His questioning of the value to Britain and the practicality of the Group of Five agreement on exchange rate attitudes is also sound, as the markets are already beginning to demonstrate.

On Tuesday evening, the dollar weakened sharply, as adverse currency news came out very late from Tokyo. Sterling strengthened and gilts shot ahead, mainly on currency movements but also on hopes that the upgrading of sterling would force the Chancellor's hand over interest rates. Gilts rose 1/2 point in late trading. News of the bitter disagreement between the Chancellor and the CBI buoyed sentiment still further as trading started yesterday morning, and gilts pushed a little more.

By late afternoon, the dollar was starting to recover again. It put on some 3 or 4 pence against the mark, rising to around DM2.68. The resurgence in the US currency was enough to push sterling lower. This weakness in turn triggered off foreign selling in some size, and short gilts, for example, dropped by about 1/2 point in the last hour of the day. The final fall was enough to take parts of the market back to its initial position before the jitters started coming out of Tokyo.

It may be the euphemism of the year to say that markets will need time to settle down after the Group of Five's intervention. The plain fact is that many traders do not believe that central banks have the power, if the political will is lacking, to run the currency markets successfully.

Bank of England blues

The most important result for the City of the changes at the Bank of England is undoubtedly the greater-than-expected, and reassuring, strengthening of the supervisory system, in terms of structure, numbers and personalities. The combination of George Blunden and Rodney Galpin is familiar to most bankers as a winning team from lifeboat days and after.

Bank watchers, however, have inevitably turned their more intriguing thoughts to the implications of the Blunden appointment for the next round of changes. Accidents apart, the circus will start late in 1987, when the question of the Governor's reappointment comes up. Robin Leigh-Pemberton's chances do not look good at the moment. He may not feel, after a year of battering, that he would want a second term, and might think twice before declining a return to his old job as head of National Westminster. It is ironic indeed that an appointment seen at the time as so political that the Opposition mooted replacing Mr Leigh-Pemberton if they came to office should now have lost its charm for Number 10.

It would, nonetheless, be premature to write off a second term for the Governor if Mrs Thatcher won the next election. Lord Richardson looked equally vulnerable at this stage in his first spell. Governors, like governments, have mid-term popularity problems.

If Mr Leigh-Pemberton is a one-term governor, his successor would surely come from outside the Bank. Mr Blunden is not a stop-gap deputy. Indeed, though he was not the governor's choice this time he would have been had Kit McMahon left a couple of years ago. But the new deputy is unlikely to make the final leap to the top job in Threadneedle Street and other internal candidates would then have to leapfrog the deputy, not an easy task.

That assumes that Mr Blunden fulfils his present intent to see out what would have been Mr McMahon's term, which would take up roughly four years of his five-year appointment. He could stay the full term if the governor goes. That leaves 1989 as the likely crucial date for the next generation of executive directors. Eddie George and David Walker are the obvious Bank candidates to succeed Mr Blunden. They have plenty of opportunity and challenges to show their mettle in the meantime (one benefit of the Blunden appointment for the Bank). By then, Rodney Galpin and the international director, Anthony Loehnis, will also be on the race card.

The qualities needed in a deputy-governor are not the same as those of a governor. If a managing director is needed, then Mr George, the home finance director, has already displayed the no-nonsense pragmatic qualities needed for the job.

OECD criticizes Japan trade barriers while yen soars

By Sarah Hogg and David Smith

The yen rose sharply on the foreign exchanges yesterday as the Japanese authorities faced new international criticism of their policies.

The dollar fell from ¥228 to ¥220, amid reports, denied by the Bank of Japan, that Sunday's Group of Five meeting set an official target for the yen/dollar rate of 200-210.

Reaction to the Group of Five meeting continued, with the pound gaining 60 points to \$1.4382 against the dollar, but falling 3.6 pence to £1.0000 against the mark.

In an unusually sharply worded commentary, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) said in its annual report on Japan that "additional measures to increase foreign access to Japanese markets should be taken."

The report, prepared by the

secretariat of OECD - the club of 24 main industrial economies - points to Japan's heavy dependence on exports to the United States, which rose a staggering 40 per cent last year - and argues that Japan's surplus is causing friction with its trading partners.

It says Japan should stimulate domestic demand, while it is instead pursuing a budgetary policy which the OECD says is actually contractionary.

Given its weight and "key stake" in the world economy, the OECD says critically: "Japan must now play a leading role in promoting an open and multilateral trading system."

The Bank of England, publishing its 100th quarterly bulletin today, adds its voice to the concern over US protectionism, and called upon Japan to act.

An easing of protectionist

pressures in the United States requires both a reduction in the US federal budget deficit and deflation in Japan and Europe, it says.

Only such a combination is likely to bring about the dollar depreciation necessary to produce a sustainable US current account deficit.

However, the recommendation to reflate is confined to those countries in which cost pressures pose no serious threat, and the Bank is still sufficiently worried about wage costs in Britain to confine its expansionary advice to other countries.

Although inflation Britain is expected to fall to around 5.5 per cent by the end of the year, and continue to decline in 1986, the Bank gives a warning that "For longer-term progress on prices, jobs and growth, how-

ever, it is essential that wage settlements moderate and the growth of unit labour costs be reduced substantially to the much lower rates of our competitors."

The Bank produces figures showing a sharp deterioration in Britain's relative unit labour costs' position between the first and second quarters. In the second quarter, expressed in a common currency, Britain's costs rose by 9 per cent relative to competitors, although much of this was due to the rise in the pound against other currencies.

The Bank remains cautious about prospects for lower interest rates. Above-target growth in the sterling M3 measure of money supply has been accommodated, because the decline in broad money velocity has continued and exceeded official expectations.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Unilever lifts bid

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch food and detergents group, is raising its bid for Richardson-Vicks, the US health and skin care group, by \$4 (£2.78) a share to \$60 a share or around \$1.35 billion - but only if the board backs the offer. Otherwise, it is prepared to pay only \$48 a share.

Unilever's new bid of nearly £1 billion is designed to break down the opposition from the Richardson-Vicks board and family interests, who have been buying shares in the market to frustrate the takeover attempt. There was no response from Richardson-Vicks last night.

Wimpey ahead

George Wimpey, the construction company, lifted profits from £6.1 million before tax in the six months to June 30. The interim dividend is unchanged at 0.85p. Meanwhile, Newarthill, a smaller contractor, saw profits fall from £12.3 million to £10.1 million in the six months to April 30.

Tempus, page 17

Mills up 36%

Mills & Allen International saw profits for the year to June 30 ahead by 36 per cent to £27.4 million. A final dividend of 1.2p has been recommended, making 16p for the whole year and an improvement of 18 per cent on 1983/84.

Tempus, page 17



Mr. Malcolm Williamson, above, a Barclays Bank regional general manager, has been appointed managing director of National Girobank.

Vickers boost

Vickers, the diversified engineer, lifted profits from £15.3 million to £18.3 million before tax in the six months to June 30. Turnover was up from £271 million to £293 million and the dividend has been increased to 5p from 4p.

Tempus, page 17

Exxon stays out of onshore list

By David Young

Exxon, the world's largest oil company, is conspicuously absent from the 117 groups which have applied for acreage in the first round of onshore oil exploration licences to be issued by the Government.

The Department of Energy has received 193 applications for licences.

The licence applications cover areas in the southern Home Counties Dorset, Hampshire, the East Midlands, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and the coastal areas of Cheshire and Lancashire. The coal-bearing areas around the Firth of Forth are also favoured for new applications.

Apart from Exxon most of the world's recognized oil exploration companies have bid for licences.

The Department of Energy will announce the allocation of licences early next year.

Horizon man resigns

By Derek Harris

In a management shake-up at Horizon Holidays, hard pressed in the bitter package holidays price war, Mr Ken Franklin is resigning as managing director.

He has been with Horizon for 20 years, joining its founder, Mr Bruce Tanner, less than a year after Horizon started in Birmingham.

Mr Tanner is chairman of Horizon Travel, of which Horizon Holidays is part. Early this month, when Horizon reported worsening losses at the operational level, he announced a "slut it out" policy on prices.

Horizon's package holidays operation has been losing market share, falling from about 8 per cent to 6.

Resigning as managing director at the end of this month, Mr Franklin is staying on as non-executive chairman of Horizon Holidays until the end of next year. He will then be aged 50, long his target age for retirement.

His successor as managing director is Mr David Cockerton, his deputy.

Two new posts are being created. Mr Michael Knowles becomes development director of Horizon Holidays and will concentrate on subsidiary activities like the Broadway budget packages operation. Mr Keith Purdom becomes sales and operations director.

Fraser chief hints at new listing

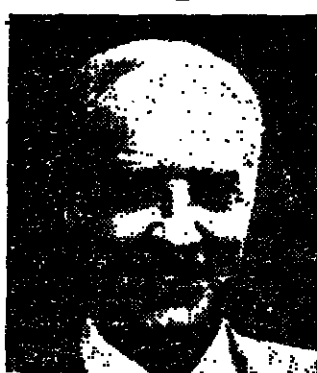
By Patience Wheatcroft

House of Fraser, the department store chain now owned by the Egyptian Al-Fayed brothers, is likely to seek a new Stock Exchange listing. The Al-Fayed, who won control of the group, which includes Harrods and a £615 million takeover bid in March, are planning further large-scale acquisitions and would like to use Fraser shares to fund the purchases.

Mr Ernest Sharp, a Fraser director, said yesterday: "We are in an acquisitive mood and any company with acquisitions in mind is helped by having paper." He said it could be a couple of years before Fraser shares might be offered to the public again, although he did not rule out an earlier relaunch if a large acquisition was likely.

Yesterday, Fraser revealed an 86 per cent increase in pretax profits for the half year to July 17, leaping from £7.4 million to £13.8 million. Turnover was up from £384.8 million to £441.8 million. The improvement, Mr Sharp said, was due to more closely targeted merchandising in the stores and substantial cuts in overheads.

"We were also able to get on with running the business instead of having to waste time in extraordinary general meetings," Mr Sharp said, referring to the protracted battle with Mr



Ernest Sharp: in acquisitive mood

Roland "Tiny" Rowland and Lorrho. That fight ended last November, when the Al-Fayed bought Lorrho's 29.9 per cent Fraser stake.

The last financial effects of the saga are shown in Fraser's half-year figures which contain an extraordinary debit of £2.1 million relating largely to fees and other costs incurred in dealing with Lorrho and then the Al-Fayed bid.

Fluor move

Fluor Great Britain, the engineering and construction company, is to move its engineering division from Euston Square to London's Docklands in a purpose-built 200,000 sq ft headquarters.

Philippines cash 'may be stopped'

From Bailey Morris

The Philippines, one of the biggest debtor nations, is not complying with the economic programme it negotiated with the International Monetary Fund, and is in danger of being cut off from future funds, IMF officials confirmed yesterday.

With \$24 billion in outstanding foreign debt the Philippines is the second largest debtor in recent weeks not to comply with IMF programmes. Mexico, now a candidate for emergency aid from the IMF and large industrial nations, was the first.

Problems with the Philippines loan surfaced amid new evidence that Latin American nations, faced with worsening economic conditions, plan to launch a new offensive to force industrial nations to adopt more lenient policies on debts. Latin American leaders aim to press Western officials for easier terms at the annual meeting next week of the IMF and the World Bank, continuing a campaign begun earlier this week at the United Nations.

The Reagan Administration, concerned over the increasing resistance of Latin American nations and the fact that more debtor nations are failing to comply has begun a full-scale review of its debts strategy.

French eye broker

Société Générale, the large state-owned French bank, may take a stake in the stockbroker firm of Strauss, Turnbull, and two already have a joint Eurobond trading venture, Société Générale Strauss Turnbull, in London, and when Hambros took a 29.9 per cent stake in Strauss last year, plans were announced to set up an international dealing company backed by all three.

Negotiations are continuing and could involve Société Générale taking a direct stake in Strauss.

New Fleet date

United Newspapers announced yesterday that it was extending its £285 million bid for Fleet Holdings until October 18. By the first closing date on Wednesday the offer had been accepted by holders of 0.32 per cent of Fleet's shares.

No merger

Talks which could have led to the formation of the world's biggest accounting firm have been called off. Representatives of PricewaterhouseCoopers and KPMG Thomson McLintock have decided that the "complexities" make a merger impossible.

County recruits

County Bank has recruited 12 Eurobond dealers and traders to bolster its presence in the international debt markets.

Lawson praises risk capital record

By Our Economics Editor

The British experience of venture capital has been "one of the great unsung successes of the last six years", the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, said in the Stock Exchange chairman's lecture in London last night.

Mr Lawson said that the total of venture capital raised by independent funds in Britain in the first half of 1985 was more than £150 million - a higher

proportion of national income than the \$1.3 billion raised during the same period in the United States.

The Chancellor said that the number of employee share ownership schemes in Britain had increased from a mere 30 in 1979 to more than 1,000 today.

The Chancellor outlined three "major challenges" for the

financial community: providers of capital should "actively help" companies to grow; they should seek ways of improving the supply of small packets of equity capital; and they should build on the success of the privatization programme in creating a new public for share ownership.

Leader comment, page 13

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord	979.1 (-1.5)
FT All Share	618.88 (-1.2)
FT Gov Securities	84.08 (+0.27)
FT-SE 100	1,270.8 (-4.4)
Bargains	20.015
Datastream USM	104.80 (-0.86)
New York	
Dow Jones	1,305.88 (-6.15)
Tokyo	
Nikkei Dow	12,689.50 (-15.31)
Hong Kong	
Hang Seng	1,511.87 (-35.81)
Amsterdam: GEN	211.61 (-4.6)
Sydney: AO	571.8 (+10.3)
Frankfurt:	
Commerzbank	1,553.8 (-5.0)
Bussels:	
General	433.18 (-8.43)
Paris: CAC	211.1 (-2.4)

GOLD

London fixing:	
am \$330.40 - pm \$329.25	
close \$329.00 - \$329.50	(£228.25 - 228.75)
New York:	
Comex (latest)	\$328.45

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Oceanic Group	59p +1p
Burnie Clothes	38p +8p
Falcon Ind	31p +8p
Somprotex	124p +11p
A. B. Elit Prods	280p +22p
Hampton Gold	143p +10p
McLaughlinHrvy	118p +8p
Ferranti	118p +8p
Celtic Haven	95.50p +0.50p
Staff Poteries	64p +4p
WISL Holdings	58p +4p
Wellman	9p +0.50p
Boston Textile	18p +1p
Finlay Packaging	55p +3p
Kent (John)	58p +3p
DBE Technology	40p +2p
Scantronic	80p +4p
Spear & Jackson	184p +8p
Riley Leisure	44p +2p

FALLS:

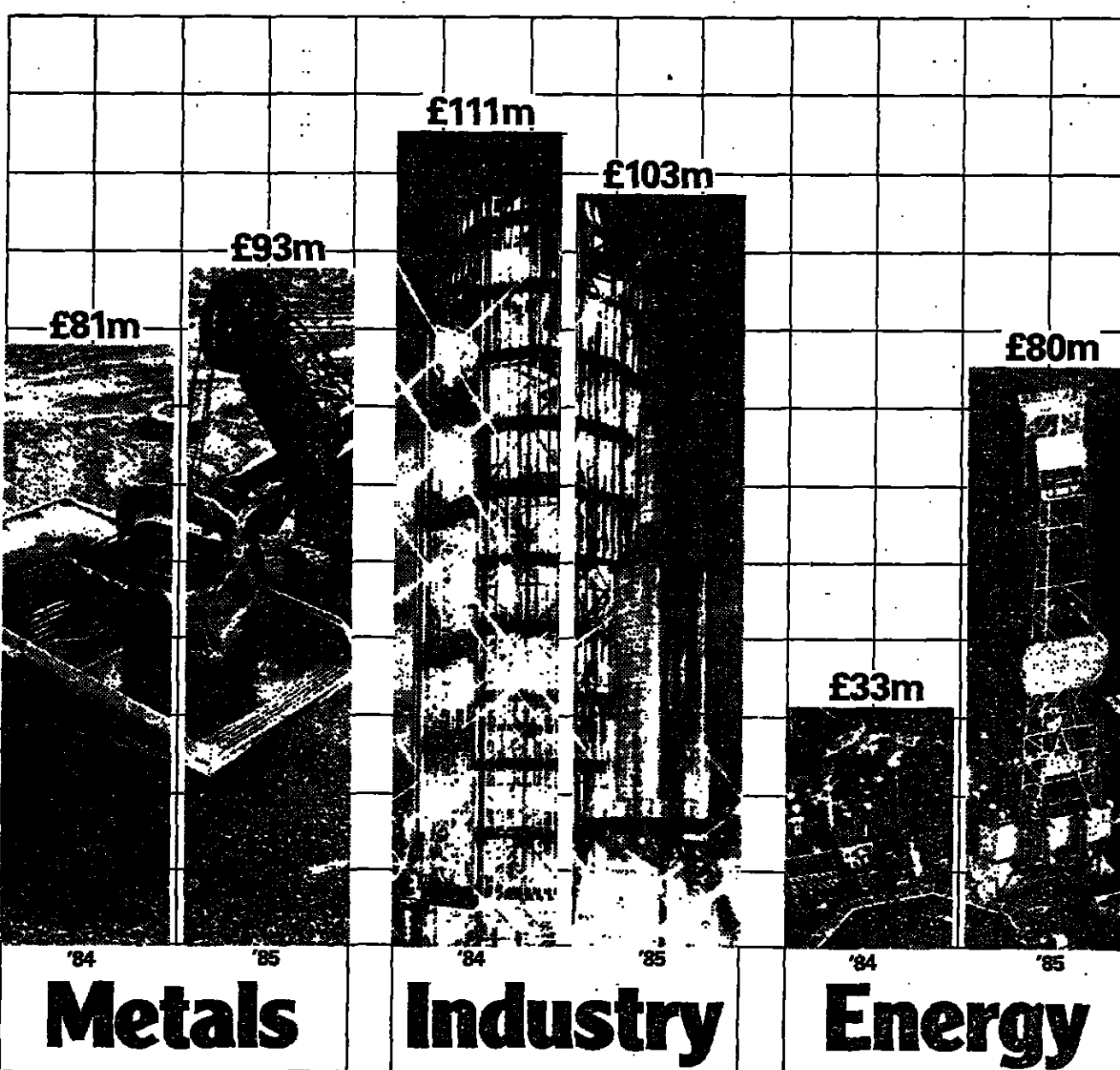
Micro Bus Sys	50p -28p
Bio-Isolates	38p -5p
Bespak	150p -20p
New London Oil	53p -7p
Falcon Resources	48p -5p
A & M Hire	21p -2p
Central & Swood	5.50p -0.50p
Yorklyde	165p -15p

CURRENCIES

London:	
£/\$ 1.4382 (+0.0060)	
£/DM 3.8322 (-0.0359)	
£/SwFr 1.1384 (-0.0328)	
£/FF 11.7002 (-0.1186)	
£/Yen 317.78 (-9.08)	
£ Index: 82.0 (-0.8)	
New York:	
£/\$ 1.4400	
£/DM 2.8842	
£ Index: 131.8 (-0.5)	
ECU £0.79481	
SDR £0.734804	

INTEREST RATES

London:	
Bank Base: 11 1/2%	
3-month Interbank 11 1/2 - 11 3/4%	
3-month eligible bills	
buying rate 11 - 10 3/4%	
US:	
Prime Rate 9.50%	
Federal Funds 7 3/4%	
3-month Treasury Bills 6.93 - 6.91%	
30-year bonds 100 3/4 - 100 1/4%	



Half year pre-tax results

RTZ's activities cover three broad sectors: energy resources, industrial products and metal mining and processing.

RTZ's assets are spread worldwide with 25 per cent in the UK, 24 per cent in North America, 41 per cent in Australasia, 5 per cent in Central and Southern Africa and 5 per cent elsewhere.

In the first half of 1985 Group turnover, on the proportional equity basis increased by 9 per cent, operating profit by 16 per cent and net profit attributable to RTZ shareholders by 15 per cent.

In US dollar terms most metal prices remain weak, constrained by excess capacity. Earnings for the industrial and energy sectors, which in the first half of 1985 together accounted for 70 per cent of the contribution to net earnings should show some improvement overall in the second half.

Summary (£ millions)	First half 1985	First half 1984	Year 1984
Turnover	1,336.0	1,778.0	3,900.0
Profit before tax	224.0	193.0	424.0
Net profit attributable to RTZ shareholders	114.7	100.1	210.7
Earnings per ordinary share	37.03p	32.33p	68.03p
Dividend per 25p ordinary share	7.00p	6.50p	20.00p

Notes: The results shown for the year 1984 have been extracted from the full accounts prepared on an historical cost basis which involved an unqualified auditors' report and have been filed with the Registrar of Companies.

The proportional equity basis of consolidation shows the attributable interests of RTZ shareholders in each of the items included.

RTZ The Rio Tinto-Zinc Corporation PLC
6 St. James's Square, London SW1Y 4LD

TEMPUS

Labouring builders shed a little more light on results

Two of the most private construction companies, Newarthill and George Wimpey, drew back their curtains slightly yesterday in announcing their interim results. Neither allowed analysts a good look inside, though Wimpey continues to promise more disclosure later.

The two sets of figures have plenty of common features. Both companies are clearly finding trading difficult, with Newarthill, the McAlpine family company, reporting profits £2.2 million down at £10.1 million.

It does however indicate that the second half should be better and that for the year as a whole profits should equal last year's £16.4 million.

Wimpey managed to lift its profits marginally to £6.3 million after a sharp increase in interest charges. Following the expected sale of the Ariel property portfolio, interest charges should fall. But overall progress since Mr Cliff Chetwood took over as chairman almost two years ago has been slow.

The company still makes only 2.4 per cent of sales. Its huge capital base of £700 million plus is hardly performing as it ought.

Both companies have unusual accounting policies, though Newarthill has come a long way since it switched from using current cost accounts to the more old-fashioned but familiar historic cost version, but it has muddled the picture by still charging current cost depreciation, thereby depressing profits.

Wimpey too has seen changes, having moved its initial profit on the sale of its shares in Oldham Estates down the profit and loss account from an exceptional to an extraordinary credit. But it has persisted in taking as profit the difference between the sale price of these shares and their original cost rather than their book value. If it had adopted the more normal book value method it would have had no property profit to show.

Mr Chetwood asks analysts to be patient for more information and better performance. He says the group will come right. Buyers of the

Mills & Allen

An old accountancy adage holds that the quality of a business shows up in the extraordinary items. The surplus and deficits on disposal reveal nearly the gaps between ambition and fulfilment.

On this reading, Mills & Allen is plainly in the throes of a transitional phase, and contemplating shifting the balance of emphasis within the group. Despite the dismal underperformance in the shares over the past year, traders now expect to see a fairly sizeable acquisition at some stage in the next 18 months or so.

Hence, below the line, out goes the stake in Hogg Robinson, as part of a general clearance. The investment netted a useful £2.9 million surplus, which can be set very favourably alongside the £1.8 million rationalization cost of withdrawal from the wholesale insurance side at Lloyds.

Clearly the terms and conditions of membership of some City of London clubs are less onerous than others.

Some Far Eastern subsidiaries have been tidied up, generating a £428,000 surplus, and the media side has experienced more rationalization. The net impact of the moves is an extraordinary surplus of some £1.6 million.

The rationale for further acquisitions is underlined by the small size of the subsidiary insurance broking, media, and market research relative to the group's main money-spinner, money and securities broking, whose profits zoomed ahead from nearly £15 million to just over £21½ million.

The four subsidiary divisions account for less than a fifth of total group profits. Money and securities broking enjoyed very favourable trading conditions. The dollar was strong, falling during the year from an average of \$1.46 in 1984 to around \$1.25, and this boosted profits of the group's New York IDB bonds business.

The fact that Mills & Allen supplies liquidity to these markets, which are booming

anyway thanks to the scale of the US deficit, which in turn leads to more US Treasury debt sales, has also helped volumes.

It may be difficult for Mills & Allen to find businesses to acquire, with comparable growth prospects. But with £21 million in cash in the balance sheet, the board is plainly going to try hard - and quickly. The shares rose 5p to 350p.

Vickers

After a frothy start to the year, Vickers' shares have gone flat in recent months. The speculative element has left them as hopes that the company will eventually receive extra compensation for its aircraft and shipbuilding assets, nationalized in 1977, have faded. The European Court of Human Rights has yet to give its decision on this claim.

The shares were also knocked when Mr Saul Steinberg's company, Reliance sold its 7 per cent shareholding, destroying takeover hopes. The recent fall in the shares to 275p, however, gives scant recognition to underlying progress on the trading front.

Yesterday's interim results confirmed a healthy upward trend with profits up from £13.8 million to £18.7 million before tax.

Nearly £2 million of the increase reflected a turnaround from loss to profit at the Australian associate and £1 million came from lower interest charges. This leaves the underlying trading increase at about 10 per cent.

The company indicates that there was an improvement across the board, with sales of Rolls Royce cars holding up in the United States despite exchange rate movements. The company has successfully avoided currency losses with extensive hedging.

The second half should benefit from the timing of some large defence sales and maiden contributions from two recent acquisitions, Comforto and TECA.

Profits for the year should reach £40 million, suggesting a p/e ratio of just 8.5. After an increased interim dividend the yield 5.7 per cent, which looks attractive in view of prospects for continued trading progress.

COMPANY NEWS

- GRATTAN: The interim dividend is being doubled to 2p (1p), payable on Jan 6. For the half-year to July 31, with figures in £'000, turnover was 121,598 (98,988). Pretax profit was 6,789 (3,464) and earnings per share reached 11.82p (7.26p).
- TR ENERGY: For the year to June 30, no dividend (same) is being paid. Pretax net revenue was £356,424 (£101,209). Earnings per share were 1p (0.9p).
- STAG FURNITURE: An interim dividend of 1.75p (1.75p) is being paid on Nov 25 for the first half of this year. With figures in £'000 sales were 15,364 (19,572) and pre-tax profit was 420 (361). Earnings per share jumped to 3.8p (1.0p).
- W GROUP: An interim dividend of 1.94p (same) is being paid on Nov 7 for the first half of this year, with figures in £'000, sales were 15,032 (13,159), while profit, before tax, was 416 (403). Earnings per share slipped to 8.98p (10.12p).
- PHILLIPS PATENTS (HOLDINGS): For the half-year to Sept 1, turnover was £781,888 (£1,016 million). The trading profit before tax was £30,604 (loss, £177,200).
- RAMAR TEXTILES: For the 53 weeks to May 31 a dividend of 1.65p (1.5p) is being paid on December 5. With figures in £'000, turnover was 21,024 (18,558), while profit before tax was 751 (582). Earnings per share were basic 5.30p (3.94p) and fully diluted, 4.14p (3.08p).
- MANDERS (HOLDINGS): An interim dividend of 2.1p (2p) is being paid on November 11. With figures in £'000, turnover for the first half of this year was Britain, 22,565 (18,763) and overseas, 2,135 (2,300). Pretax profit was 2,038 (2,005). Earnings per share reached 7.6p (7.3p).
- SHORROCK: An interim dividend of 0.5p is being paid on November 11. This is a 16 per cent increase on the prospectus indication. With figures in £'000, turnover was 7,563 (5,511) for the first half of 1985. Pretax profit was 645 (560) and earnings per share were 2.0p (1.6p).
- MEZZANINE CAPITAL CORP: A joint venture of Mezzanine and Vintage Interchange is to acquire 82 per cent of Dale Electronics from Lionel Corp for about \$76.86 million (£53 million).
- WHITMAN REEVE ANGEL: For the half-year to June 30, an interim dividend of 0.82p is being paid on Nov 8. This is an effective increase of 20.6 per cent. With figures in £'000, turnover was 16,996 (14,821). Pretax profit was 2,665 (2,204). Earnings per share were 6.51p (5.12p).
- PLATINUM: For the six months to July 31, a dividend or preference dividend is being paid. With figures in £'000, sales were 5,562 (4,076). Profit before tax was 78 (3). Earnings per share were 0.15p (0.006p).

HOUSE OF FRASER PLC Interim Statement

The unaudited results of the Group for the 26 weeks ended 27th July 1985

52 weeks 26th Jan. 1985 £'000	26 weeks 27th July 1985 £'000	26 weeks 28th July 1984 £'000
1,058,100	504,064	439,070
127,987	62,230	54,264
930,113	441,834	384,806
58,019	19,897	11,948
(9,737)	(6,619)	(5,033)
1,513	711	680
367	(141)	(166)
(2,000)	-	-
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION	13,848	7,429
Taxation (1)	5,654	3,405
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAXATION	8,194	4,024
Extraordinary items (2)	(2,104)	(84)
PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL PERIOD	6,090	3,940
Preference Dividends	16	16
Ordinary Dividends	-	-
PROFIT RETAINED	6,074	3,924
Earnings per Ordinary Share of 18.2p	25p before Extraordinary Items (3)	5.3p 2.6p

- NOTES
- Provision for taxation has been made at the expected annual effective rate of 40.83% (1984 - 45.83%).
 - Extraordinary items include the costs and expenses associated with the offer by Allied Investment and Trust (UK) plc for the company. Extraordinary General Meetings and various governmental enquiries, and the profits on the sale of surplus properties less closure costs.
 - The earnings per Ordinary Share have been calculated using the number of Ordinary Shares in issue during the periods. For the 26 weeks to 27th July 1985 the average number was 153,679,045 (1984 - 153,171,322).
 - The interim statement contains comparative figures extracted from the full accounts for 1984/85. Those accounts on which the auditors gave an unqualified report were issued to shareholders on 25th July 1985, but will not be delivered to the Registrar of Companies until after the Annual General Meeting.

44Pre-tax profits at the half way stage are 80% higher than a year ago. The benefits of store refurbishment and market led buying programmes are apparent both in higher sales volume and trading profits. The new Fraser store in Aberdeen will be open early in October and new stores are being built in Norwich, Ipswich and in the new Metro Centre in North East England.

Professor Roland Smith, Chairman

This announcement of House of Fraser results for the half-year ended 27th July 1985 is being published in a number of national newspapers on 27th September 1985 but will not otherwise be communicated to shareholders.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Australians bet on Allied bid today

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

Millions of pounds were wagered yesterday that Elders, the Australian conglomerate, would roll out its signalled bid for the Allied-Lyons food and drink group today.

Heavy buying, much of it from Australia, pushed Allied shares up 8p to 291p, a new peak.

There was, surprisingly, little evidence of new time buying with most investors prepared to buy for current account settlement.

Elders is due to announce its profit figures today. Its guiding light, Mr John Elliott, is still in Australia but is expected to host City conferences through a satellite link-up.

Shareholders in the USM-listed Humberstone Electronic Controls were asked for more cash yesterday in a 4 for 11 rights issue at 10p a share. HEC wants to raise £589,000 net to help fund further growth. The order book stands at a record £1.3 million, and the directors forecast a pretax profit of not less than £300,000 for the year to next May. HEC shares held steady at 12p.

Reports that Mr Elliott has put together his bidding consortium have been strengthening for some time. In America they are saying that the Elders offer will be 325p a share.

Elders has been given until October 17 by the City takeover panel to make its bid intentions clear. So a move today would be surprising. But as one broker commented: "The Australians are piling in - they must think they know something".

Imperial Group, now rid of its troublesome Howard Johnson catering and hotel chain has said it is contemplating joining the Elders consortium. Imps would like the Allied food side.

There was active trading in Imps shares with the price rising 4p to 193p. But it was suggestions of a bid for Imps, with the Dee Corporation emerging as the new favourite, which helped the shares.

Distillers Co., the spirit group where Argyl Group hovers, was also firm, gaining 3p to 388p on vague talk that the Seagram Co., the Canadian group which already has extensive Scotch whisky industry, would join Argyl's bid consortium.

Away from the bid excitement, shares tended to drift with the FT30 share index lowered for the fifth consecutive day. The indicator ended 1.5 points down at 979.1 points. The FT-SE share index, embracing 100 stocks, finished at 1,270.8 points, a fall of 4.4 points. The strength of sterling continued to erode international stocks and analysts are cutting their profit forecasts. The delay in lowering interest rates is another factor depressing the market.

A renewed rush of profit downgradings tended to chip away at many leading shares. Oils sagged ahead of next week's Opec meeting. Government stocks rose by up to £3½ on yield considerations.

Pilkington Group dropped 11p to 250p, another new low for the year, as exchange rate problems continue to worry analysts. Profit forecasts are being downgraded virtually every day, given the amount of earnings which Pilkington gets from markets such as the US and South Africa.

The Australian operations are also a weakness while the local currency keeps losing ground against sterling, and this year's £20 million of redundancy costs for the group are an additional worry. Among those City firms which have again cut forecasts is Fielding, Newton-Smith, and analysts there say there is little choice but to do so while currency movements continue to go against the glass-making and industrial business.

The Kuwait Investment Office is thought to have sold about 2 per cent of Queens Meat Houses, the hotel group. The KIO now has some 7 per cent of QMH. The shares were unchanged at 49½p.

The only positive factor is that for next year, says Fielding. Pilkington must be regarded as a "recovery situation". At least those extraordinary costs will not be there.

Redland, the building materials group, has similar problems, as the chairman pointed out at yesterday's shareholders' meeting. The Redland share price fell 7p to 297p.

It was a different story for DRG Group, on the paper and packaging pitches. Brokers are upping their profit forecasts.

with W Greenwell, among others, putting a healthy "buy" tag on the shares. DRG's rights issue has gone down well in the City, and institutional investors have been steadily moving into DRG in recent months. Yesterday the old shares rose 7p to 192p and the new, nil paid, were chased up from 16p to 22p.

The old bid rumours will not leave DRG, but finance director Mr Barry Stevenson says: "I have no reason to suppose the buying is anything other than for straightforward investment."

Oceonics, the technology company which is known to be seeking a merger, rose 12p to 59p as the market appeared to believe an announcement is on the way. But it is a thin market in the shares, and a spokesman for the company said there is no news in the offering.

Elsewhere on the electronics lists, Micro Business Systems tumbled 28p to 50p alongside

is bad profits news. Interim profits are almost half what they were a year ago.

General Electric Company dipped 4p to 158p as the market heard a large line of stock had come on offer. There was little sign that GEC would pick up the shares, even though the current price is at the level the group has paid for its own

Expect Windsor Securities, the insurance broker, to take the acquisition trail shortly. Control of the company changed hands after a fierce battle in June. The shares were unchanged at 52p yesterday.

shares at intervals through this year.

Ferranti rose 8p to 116p alongside news of more orders for Tornado aircraft. British Aerospace, the main contractor, was 3p better at 421p.

Newcomers Just Rubber and National Home Loans made

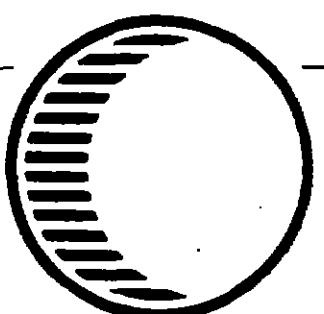
quiet debuts. Wold, sharply lower on Wednesday, fell a further 8p to 68p.

Garage groups were wanted following the Unigate bid for Arlington Motor Holdings. AMH, suspended at 167p hit 225p compared with the 234p cash bid.

Micro Business Systems tumbled 28p to 50p in the wake of halved profits.

Business was subdued on the traded options market, with just one option reaching a four-figure total and volume for the day at 7,563 contracts. The stock exchange index option has volume of 1,028 contracts.

Marks and Spencer proved relatively popular, with a total of 8716, while GEC totted up 661 contracts traded. The dollar-sterling option saw 767 units change hands, but Imperial notched up just 328 despite the high level of speculation in the main share market. There were no significant price changes.



CENTRAL

CENTRAL INDEPENDENT TELEVISION PLC

Interim Results

for the six months ended 30 June 1985

	Six months ended 30 June 1985 £'000	Unaudited £'000	Year ended 31 December 1984 £'000
Turnover	72,783	68,006	152,203
Group profit before taxation	2,566	2,815	10,047
Taxation	(1,128)	(1,138)	(3,980)
Profit for the six months	1,438	1,677	6,067
Earnings per share	5.7p	6.7p	24.3p
Dividend per share	2.5p	2.5p	10.5p

Turnover increased by 6.1% to £72.8m. Although the advertising market generally was less buoyant than had been anticipated, Central's market share and advertising revenue were higher than in the same period of 1984. Programme sales also increased.

Group profit before tax, at £2,566m, was 8.8% lower at the half year. This reflected the inclusion of certain high-cost programmes which will however generate overseas revenue in the second six months; the increased costs were partly offset by an allowance for levy.

The incidence of advertising revenue and costs is not uniform throughout the year and therefore the results for the first six months should not be taken as an indication of the final outcome for the full year.

An interim dividend of 2.5p per share (1984 2.5p) amounting to £627,000 will be paid on 8th November 1985 to shareholders on the register as at 10th October 1985.

The figures for the year ended 31 December 1984 have been extracted from the full accounts on which the auditors have issued an unqualified report.

Registered Office: Central House, Broad Street, Birmingham B1 2JP

VICKERS MAINTAINS PROGRESS

RESULTS FOR SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 1985

A summary of the unaudited consolidated results for Vickers P.L.C. for the six months ended 30 June 1985 is shown opposite.

At the Annual General Meeting in April I spoke of a steady and more prosperous 1985. I am pleased to be able to report that the first six months of the year have confirmed this statement, with increased profit before taxation at £18.7 million, compared with £13.8 million in 1984.

Progress has been made across all our activities, and overall margins maintained. Forward contracts have provided stability against a fluctuating U.S. dollar.

The Board has declared an interim dividend of 5.0p (1984 4.4p) per £1 Ordinary Stock, equivalent, with associated tax credit, to 7.1p (1984 5.7p) gross. The interim dividend will cost £4.6 million and will be paid on 6 November 1985 to stockholders on the Register at 10 October 1985.

The development of our main businesses continues, and, in addition, we have made two acquisitions. In May, Comforto, an internationally based designer and manufacturer of office seating products, with factories in U.S.A., Germany and Switzerland, joined our Business Equipment activities. In September, TECA, a U.S.-based

manufacturer and distributor of electro-diagnostic medical equipment, was purchased and will add greatly to the strength in the U.S. market of the Medical and Scientific Equipment businesses.

Our Australian associated company is no longer making losses.

Our leasehold interest in Millbank Tower has been sold for £12.25 million and part of our freehold interest in the South Marston site for just over £3 million. BAJ Vickers has been sold through a management buy-out. Good progress is also being made towards the disposal of the Oyster Lane property, jointly owned with G.E.C.

The credit for extraordinary items arises from the sales of the properties and BAJ at values in excess of their original cost.

The Company's claim for increased nationalisation compensation was heard by the European Court of Human Rights in June. The decision of the Court is awaited and I have nothing to add on this subject at the present time.

Richard Cave, Chairman

	Six Months to 30 June (unaudited)		Year 1984
	1985 £m	1984 £m	£m
Sales	292.6	270.8	528.8
Profit before interest	21.3	19.4	41.4
Net interest payable less investment income	(3.0)	(4.1)	(8.4)
Profit after interest	18.3	15.3	33.0
Associated companies	0.4	(1.5)	(2.2)
Profit before taxation	18.7	13.8	30.8
Taxation			
- Group	(4.5)	(2.4)	(5.4)
- Associates	-	1.0	1.0
Profit after taxation	14.2	12.4	26.4
Minority interests	(0.1)	(0.1)	0.2
Profit before extraordinary items	14.1	12.3	26.6
Extraordinary items			
- Group	7.6	(2.6)	(6.7)
- Associates	-	(3.2)	(3.3)
Stockholders' profit	21.7	6.5	16.4
Preference dividends	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.4)
Ordinary dividends	(4.6)	(3.7)	(9.2)
Profit retained	16.9	2.6	6.8
Earnings per £1 of Ordinary Stock	15.1n	13.2n	28.6n

Earnings per £1 of Ordinary Stock 15.1p 13.2p 28.6p

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Your grade on list
	BANKS DISCOUNT HP	
1	Hill Samuel	
2	Provident	
3	Allied Irish	
4	Ansbacher (Henry)	
5	Barclays	
6	Rothschild (J) Hhd	
7	Gannett Post	
8	Clive	
9	Gerrard Nat	
10	Lloyds	
	BUILDING AND ROADS	
11	Cement-Roadstone	
12	Marshall (Hafslund)	
13	Galfrid	
14	Conder Grp	
15	Lovell (YJ)	
16	Laing (J)	
17	Smart (J)	
18	Berruti Devs	
19	Vibroplant	
20	Taylor Woodrow	
	INDUSTRIALS A-D	
21	Ashley	
22	Broken Hill	
23	Ash & Lacey	
24	Berford	
25	Burnt Quakeest	
26	Blundell-Ferris	
27	Bragway	
28	Crown House	
29	Duffy Bitumastic	
30	Babcock	
	FOODS	
31	Maynards	
32	Cadbury-Schwepp	
33	Park Foods	
34	Low (R) m	
35	Unigate	
36	Banks (Sidney C)	
37	Baileys	
38	Home Farm	
39	RHM	
40	Carrs Milling	

© Times Newspapers Limited Your Daily Total

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £0.00 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

1985 High	1985 Low	Stock	Price	Chg	%	Yld	Gross Div	P/E
100	95	Ashtley	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Broken Hill	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Ash & Lacey	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Berford	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Burnt Oak	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Braxton	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Crown House	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Duffy Bitumastic	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Babcock	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	FOODS	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Maynards	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Cadbury-Schwepp	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Park Foods	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Low (R)	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Unigate	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Banks (Sidney C)	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Baileys	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Home Farm	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	RHM	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0
100	95	Carrs Milling	100	5	5.0	4.5	4.5	10.0

BRITISH FUNDS						
1985 High	1985 Low	Stock	Price	Chg	%	Yld
100	95	Ashtley	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Broken Hill	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Ash & Lacey	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Berford	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Burnt Oak	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Braxton	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Crown House	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Duffy Bitumastic	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Babcock	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	FOODS	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Maynards	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Cadbury-Schwepp	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Park Foods	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Low (R)	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Unigate	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Banks (Sidney C)	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Baileys	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Home Farm	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	RHM	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Carrs Milling	100	5	5.0	4.5

SHORTS (Under Five Years)						
1985 High	1985 Low	Stock	Price	Chg	%	Yld
100	95	Ashtley	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Broken Hill	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Ash & Lacey	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Berford	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Burnt Oak	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Braxton	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Crown House	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Duffy Bitumastic	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Babcock	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	FOODS	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Maynards	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Cadbury-Schwepp	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Park Foods	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Low (R)	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Unigate	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Banks (Sidney C)	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Baileys	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Home Farm	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	RHM	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Carrs Milling	100	5	5.0	4.5

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS						
1985 High	1985 Low	Stock	Price	Chg	%	Yld
100	95	Ashtley	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Broken Hill	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Ash & Lacey	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Berford	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Burnt Oak	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Braxton	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Crown House	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Duffy Bitumastic	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Babcock	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	FOODS	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Maynards	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Cadbury-Schwepp	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Park Foods	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Low (R)	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Unigate	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Banks (Sidney C)	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Baileys	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Home Farm	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	RHM	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Carrs Milling	100	5	5.0	4.5

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS						
1985 High	1985 Low	Stock	Price	Chg	%	Yld
100	95	Ashtley	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Broken Hill	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Ash & Lacey	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Berford	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Burnt Oak	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Braxton	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Crown House	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Duffy Bitumastic	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Babcock	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	FOODS	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Maynards	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Cadbury-Schwepp	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Park Foods	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Low (R)	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Unigate	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Banks (Sidney C)	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Baileys	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Home Farm	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	RHM	100	5	5.0	4.5
100	95	Carrs Milling	100	5	5.0	4.5

UNDATED							
1985 High	1985 Low	Stock	Price	Chg	%	Yld	
99	79	Tread	114	1987	105	11.235	10.57
99	79	Fund	94	1987-91	85	8.678	8.57
100	81	Boch	111	1991	101	10.788	10.58
100	73	Tricia	124	1991	121	11.814	10.58
87	57	Tread	104	1991	98	10.218	10.58
87	57	Tread C	104	1991	98	10.519	10.58
111	81	Boch	122	1992	108	10.658	10.60
104	74	Each	135	1992	113	11.814	10.58
104	74	Tread	125	1993	112	11.287	10.63
104	74	Fund	95	1993	82	7.335	9.28
108	78	Tread	133	1993	121	11.831	10.70



How long can they keep it up?

They need to explain away their trading profit record.

The trading profit of United's original activities has still not returned to its 1979 level.

They need to explain away their asset position.

Net tangible assets per share have dwindled to 25% of their 1982 level.

They need to explain away their

seemingly incessant share issues.

14.6 million shares in 1981 have increased 5-fold to 73.7 million now.

Given these weighty problems, how long can they keep it up?



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Third World outlook brighter, says Bank

By David Smith

Economics Correspondent

Prospects for the heavily indebted developing countries are "moderately encouraging," according to a survey in the Bank of England's quarterly bulletin.

The Bank has examined the prospects for 20 developing countries, including Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, and the Philippines. The 20 countries account for around three-quarters of the international debt of the predominantly non-oil producing developing nations.

All the countries will have to make do on a restricted amount of external finance, according to the Bank. Access to commercial borrowing is expected to be "extremely restricted," and for those who can borrow, a cautious approach is expected to prevail.

Thus, for the developing countries, everything will depend on economic performance, particularly in export markets. The Bank sets a base forecast in which the industrialized countries grow by 3 per cent a year over the 1985-90

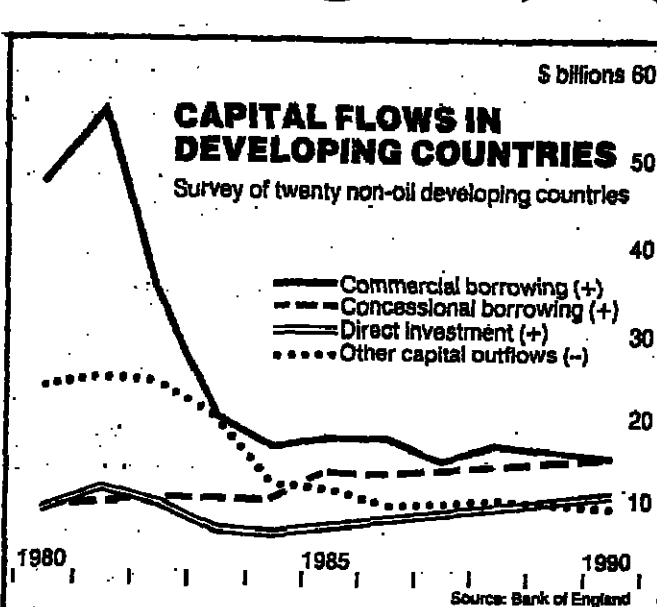
period, world trade expands by 5 per cent a year, and both world interest rates and the dollar decline.

On these assumptions, the developing countries are forecast to "increase" their share of world markets, and, as a result, can increase non-oil imports by an average of 7 per cent a year, smaller than the 12.5 per cent rise recorded in 1984 and the 9.3 per cent rise assumed for 1985, but far from out-and-out austerity.

The 20 countries are forecast to run a collective trade surplus of \$19 billion during the five years to the end of the decade but, with a large deficit on invisibles, expected, the combined current account is likely to be in deficit by \$25 billion a year.

However, the gross external debt position of the developing countries is expected to flow little under these assumptions, if at all.

Difficulties arise for the developing countries if world trade grows at a slower rate, or the general level of interest rates rises. Every 1 per cent slow-



down in world trade growth has an adverse impact of around \$4 billion a year on the external trade position of the developing countries.

Similarly, a 1 per cent increase in interest rates, as

measured by Libor (London inter-bank offer rate) puts pressure on the external position of the developing countries, boosting interest payments by \$3.9 billion a year.

The non-oil developing coun-

tries, fairly obviously, benefit from lower oil prices, every \$1 a barrel reduction improving their current account by about \$1 billion a year and reducing the debt/export ratio.

However, those in the sample for whom oil is an important export, notably Mexico, would suffer. And this is the general point made by the Bank about prospects for the developing countries.

While the general outlook is encouraging, the experiences of individual countries are likely to vary quite widely. So, some countries would be hit by lower oil prices, while the benefits would be more widely spread. As for a slowdown in world trade, certain countries would suffer particular difficulties.

What is clear is that the predicted improvement in prospects for the debtor nations rests crucially on a fairly rosy outlook for the world economy. A sharp slowdown in world trade, or a surge in interest rates, would plunge the world into a new, and more serious, debt crisis.

Srikumar Sen talks to Bernard Taylor's aides McGuigan's foe confident

The two boxers shut out the world yesterday. They worked out behind locked doors at the Chapel Lane gym in Belfast. After they had rehearsed their moves they went back to their camps. Barry McGuigan returned to his lastness in Bangor; the challenger, Bernard Taylor, of Tennessee, went to his "Fort Knoxville", a country hotel in Co. Down.

The fort is manned by the men who looked after Big John Tate, the world heavyweight champion in 1980: Ace Miller, the manager, coach and strategist; his assistant and brother, Jim, who has a suitcase for the cash; Doc, the physician; Bill, the fight analyst and cut man; and big Whitey, the security chief. On their hats are the words: "McGuigan v Taylor. This is it."

Whitey was sitting in the corridor outside the command headquarters and chewing tobacco. His feet up on a stool. His legs had the same effect as a British Rail half barrier: you could cross, but it might not be wise to. Every time he shifted in his chair, the words "Don't ask me" started pulling out across the wide expanse of his chest.

But for all that they are a friendly lot, the fighters "Don't ask me" he says. "Anything I'd say would be biased. But Bernard is not going to lose."

Ace, who named Taylor "BT Express" after he knocked out a boxer just as a train went by "going whoo-who-who," said: "Of course McGuigan is a good fighter, the best. He and Bernard are two of the best fighters in the featherweight division. But Bernard is rolling."

"I know McGuigan has the kind of crowd behind him that every fighter wants to have, but Belfast doesn't scare Bernard. He has beaten good fighters in Cuba, Poland, East Germany and Russia, and won every national and international title going except the Olympic Games."

"He holds more titles than anybody else in the United States ever. He has won a gold medal in Moscow. He beat Angel Herrera, of Cuba, the night after his mother died, and he loved his mother. He carries her picture around with him. That night in Madison Square Garden I knew he would be world champion one day."

"McGuigan is a good fighter and very strong but he'll be the one taking a beating. He will not know what he is getting into. Nobody will know. Except myself because he and I are telepathic. For example, if I say, 'Bernard, you know... he will say, 'Yes, I should have used the left hook.' That sort of thing."

Jim said: "Watch Bernard's concentration. He's a deep and quiet



Concentration: Bernard Taylor is intent on taking Barry McGuigan's WBA featherweight championship.

man. Not a hot dog. He's wise. He's like a homing torpedo. Bernard has been doing Nautilus (weight) training for the last year, and fights on his toes. But if he has to come down he does and can take calculated risks."

Bill said: "Our scouting is perfect. We could get better odds than that in like a homing torpedo. Bernard has been doing Nautilus (weight) training for the last year, and fights on his toes. But if he has to come down he does and can take calculated risks."

Bill said: "Our scouting is perfect. We could get better odds than that in like a homing torpedo. Bernard has been doing Nautilus (weight) training for the last year, and fights on his toes. But if he has to come down he does and can take calculated risks."

I have watched McGuigan every day on the video in Minnesota and I know all his tricks and his moves. And I keep in touch with Ace in Knoxville. "This is how I see it. What'll matter most on the night is 1, conditioning; 2, smart; you know, ring savvy; 3, speed. Bernard has all three. He has fast footwork and his hands are quick as Hector Camacho's. I can't see any flaws in Bernard. I can't see him losing. I have used the left hook. That sort of thing."

More boxing, page 23

Grattan HOME SHOPPING

Progress continues

Interim Results for 26 weeks ended 31st July 1985

	1985 £m	1984 £m
Sales	121.6	98.1
Profit before tax	6.8	3.5
Profit after tax	5.3	3.2
Dividend	2.0p	1.0p
Earnings per share	11.8p	7.3p

HIGHLIGHTS

* 24% increase in sales.

* Substantial increase in half-year profits.

* Earnings per share increased by 62%.

* Autumn/Winter 1985 catalogues have started well and sales to date show a healthy increase on last year.

Grattan PLC, Anchor House, Ingleby Road, Bradford, BD9 2XG.

Barriers are slowing trade, says Gatt

By Michael Prest

Financial Correspondent

With admirable if fortuitous timing, sandwiched between last weekend's emergency meeting of the Group of Five and the coming International Monetary Fund and World Bank annual gathering, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade has issued a dire warning that world trade and growth are slowing at a faster rate than expected and that the mounting pile of protectionist measures is exacerbating the process.

In the first part of its annual report, published yesterday, GATT says that the volume of world trade grew by 9 per cent last year, the best performance since 1976 and the highest absolute level recorded. World production was up by 5½ per cent in 1984.

But by the end of the first six months of 1985 the warning signs were flashing. Previous forecasts for 1985 put the growth of world trade at 5 to 5½ per cent and the growth in output at 3 to 3½ per cent. GATT believes, however, that the likely outcome will be less than 4 per cent for trade, coupled with slightly slower growth in overall output.

The report cautions: "Indications that the recovery is slowing down this year, more than expected, especially in North America and parts of South-East Asia, could signal that the world economy is in danger of slipping back into the anaemic performance of the post-1973 era."

If this is to be avoided, trade policy must be seen as part of economic policy generally. The debate over the right mix of fiscal and monetary policy, particularly over the United States budget deficit, will not produce the desired results if the present trend to protection continues, GATT argues.

GATT was set up after the Second World War specifically

Growth of merchandise trade and production

1983-75 1975-80 1984

	1983-75	1975-80	1984
Exports			
Agricultural	4	3	7
Minerals	7.5	2	3
Manufactures	11.5	4.5	12
All merchandise	9	2.5	9
Production			
Agricultural	2.5	2	5
Mining	5.5	0.5	7.5
Manufacturing	7.5	2.5	7.5
All merchandise	6	3	5.5

Source: GATT annual report 1985

to maintain the open trading system, the demise of which in the inter-war period had so much damaged the world economy. Not surprisingly, therefore, the organization is alarmed by the spread of restrictive trade agreements, often bilateral arrangements between countries to control on or a small number of sectors, such as textiles.

The argument about the virtues of open trade may be familiar, but they are repeated by GATT to underline its message that surreptitiously resorting to "beggar my neighbour" policies will reduce everyone to beggary.

GATT maintains that restrictions on imports, which are the main aim of such agreements, end up restricting exports as well.

"All countries lose from the slower rate of economic growth caused by the distorted patterns of production and consumption," the report says.

But at any given level of world trade there are significant shifts in the composition and direction of traffic. GATT has looked at the 20 biggest exporters in 1983, comparing them with the top 20 a decade earlier.

The new list includes six not present in 1973: Korea, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Mexico and Singapore. By contrast, those who have dropped out include Australia, Poland, Denmark, Iran, Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic.

Even more significant, and corresponding to these changes, is the shift in the direction of trade. For the first time, trade across the Pacific last year exceeded trade across the Atlantic. Simultaneously, the value of North American exports to the Pacific area (including Japan) was the same (\$64 billion) as North American exports to Europe.

Developing countries were important in this process. Export earnings of the 16 indebted countries followed by GATT rose by 10 per cent over 1983, which was the trough.

RUGBY UNION: WELSH CUP CHANGES ANGER ELITE CLUBS

Gloucester is problem for Exeter

By David Hands

Rugby Correspondent

The first round of the John Player Special Cup tomorrow poses a particular problem for Exeter University and Loughborough University, whose teams have not yet started and whose players lack match hardness. Exeter's difficulties are compounded by having to play away at Gloucester, Cup holders on three previous occasions.

Coincidentally, both universities are assisted by new coaches. Exeter, captained by Wilfred from prop, have Les May a rugby football union senior coach and lately of the Exeter club.

They have gained Mitchell, a second year student who chose to play for Exeter, and with a cast which includes all the clubs, it will rumble on for a few months.

It has to do with the Cup competition. At the last annual general meeting, the WRU dropped what a few clubs, jealously guarding their privilege, considered to be a bombshell, when the Union announced that from the 1986/7 season the rules of the competition will change. From then on it is envisaged that it will be an open competition.

Up until now, on the basis of the previous five years, 12 of the clubs are seeded and are not required to play in the preliminary rounds. These are automatically drawn from what is conveniently referred to as the "Snelling" clubs. This is the useful shorthand used hitherto to refer to the traditional 16 top gate-taking clubs.

This has evolved over the years mainly because of the quality of the clubs' fixtures. Some believe it now to be a very arbitrary selection and doubts have been expressed as to

Ruling classes plan to resist revolution

By Gerald Davies

Perhaps rugby, no less than other forms of mass entertainment, requires tension to sustain attention successfully. At this early stage this tension is more conspicuous off the field rather than on. It will, no doubt, change in due course.

Only a couple of weeks ago Llanelli and Cardiff had something of a controversy, shall we say, over the matter of fixtures, which drama now has been resolved and the usual event of none of the Snelling or elite clubs reaching that stage the "new" emerging clubs, as it were, would be added to the other 12, who still have their places secure, thus making 28 exempted clubs of the 64 who appear in the first round.

The new ruling, as proposed by the WRU, is that only those reaching the last 16 of the previous season's competition, should be exempted in future.

All these clubs, apart from Cardiff, who have isolated themselves and are in favour of the new ruling, are gathering their forces. They have all undertaken to take part this year when the old rules still apply, but the 15 clubs who believe that the competition might prove worthless, without their participation, are mounting a campaign to oppose the new rule.

Whether a crisis will eventually arise from this drama only time will tell. The WRU are in a position at the moment to insist that all clubs take part but it has been suggested that this ruling, too, might have to be changed, an extraordinary general meeting. Whether it is this proposal or doing away with the exempted places which will be debated first, the chances are that the votes of the 15 clubs will be swamped by the other 17, who in the nature of these things in Wales, want to do away with such outstanding privilege.

King's get off to a fine start again

Schools rugby by Michael Stevenson

King's School (Worcester) have followed their unbeaten season last year with a successful start to this one. Their most recent victory is over Christ's College (Bristol), so prominent the Brentwood Schools' tournament, in Vancouver, where they defeated 10-6, but previously they had beaten Queen Mary's (Walsall) 19-3 and Old Swinford Hospital School 20-4.

The King's pack dominated up front against Christ's College, and their backs defended well against the talented Christ's backs; if Christ's College had got more ball the result might have been different. But a try from George Blackway, the King's

scrum half and captain, and two penalties by half Tim Brown, stand out as key moments.

Whitgift, who lost in the semi-final at Brentwood to Christ's College, clearly benefited appreciably from the tour and have opened their home season with a victory over John Fisher School (Purley) 14-6, and Hurstpierpoint 21-14. The Hurstpierpoint pack were in great form and came close to establishing crucial control, but Whitgift survived a long period of pressure and two late tries brought them victory.

Gloucester, narrowly beaten at Brentwood by the eventual winners, will be looking to bounce back.

CRICKET

India and New Zealand itineraries

India and New Zealand will both play three Tests and two Twenty

Gloucestershire will use the Cheltenham town ground.

INDIA ITINERARY: May 4 v Leinster, Duxbury of Norfolk's XI (Arundel); 25-27 v Oxford and Cambridge Universities (Rugby); 28-30 v Warwickshire (Warwick); 31-1 v Essex (Chelmsford); 5-7 v Sussex (Hove); 8-11 v Minor Counties (Newport); 12-14 v Warwickshire or Lancashire (Edgbaston or Old Trafford); 15-17 v Essex (Chelmsford); 18-20 v Gloucestershire (Bristol); 21-23 v Kent (Canterbury); 24-26 v Gloucestershire (Bristol); 27-29 v Gloucestershire (Bristol); 30-31 v Gloucestershire (Bristol).

NEW ZEALAND ITINERARY: June 22 v Leinster, Duxbury of Norfolk's XI (Arundel); 25-27 v Oxford and Cambridge Universities (Rugby); 28-30 v Warwickshire (Warwick); 31-1 v Essex (Chelmsford); 5-7 v Sussex (Hove); 8-11 v Minor Counties (Newport); 12-14 v Warwickshire or Lancashire (Edgbaston or Old Trafford); 15-17 v Essex (Chelmsford); 18-20 v Gloucestershire (Bristol); 21-23 v Kent (Canterbury); 24-26 v Gloucestershire (Bristol); 27-29 v Gloucestershire (Bristol); 30-31 v Gloucestershire (Bristol).

Copies of the Itinerary Statement are available from the Secretary, Superdrug Stores PLC, Beddington Lane, Croydon, Surrey CR0 4TB.

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also on page 26

GOLF: WELSHMAN BEATS SINDELAR FOR RIGHT TO FACE BALLESTEROS IN WORLD MATCH-PLAY

Woosnam has last laugh with thrilling recovery

By Mitchell Platts

Ian Woosnam earned the chance to topple Severiano Ballesteros, the champion, in the Suntory world match-play championship when he moved past Joey Sindelar of the United States, 4 and 2, much to the delight of the spectators at Wentworth yesterday.

That delight stemmed not so much from the fact that following the United States' demise in the Ryder Cup, another American had bitten the proverbial dust but more from the knowledge that Woosnam and Sindelar had provided a match packed with the kind of excitement which has made this championship famous.

First round scores

I. Woosnam (GB) (2 down) bt J. Sindelar (USA) 4 and 2.
D. Graham (Aus) (all square) bt P. Jacobsen (US) at 58th hole.
D. Watson (SA) (4 up) bt C. Pavin (US), 6 and 5.
T. Nakajima (Jap) bt S. Torrance (GB), 6 and 5.

But the crowd's disappointment on the first day was that Tommy Nakajima played with such brilliance that he was to overcome Sam Torrance 6 and 5 without their hero of the Ryder Cup once getting his head in front. Nakajima was round in the morning in 65, seven under par and two up, and then gathered three more birdies and an eagle in the afternoon to win handily.

Moreover, Denis Watson, of South Africa, clinically exposed the flaws in the game of the United States. Corey Pavin so that he, too, breezed into the second round by a 6 and 5 margin.

With these matches com-

pleted by four o'clock - on a marvellous day the likes of which the English Tourist Board were crying out for in August - it was left only for Peter Jacobsen to prolong affairs for another 90 minutes by taking the deliberate David Graham, of Australia, to the 58th hole before losing.

By that time both Sindelar and Pavin were boarding the 6 o'clock Concorde for the United States, and with Jacobsen also homeward bound the Stars and Stripes was once again fluttering at half-mast.

In fact, Andy North, the US Open champion, remains. He is one of the four seeded players but there would seem little likelihood of explosive action from his match today as he will meet Graham, who was only one under par in beating Jacobsen.

There is, of course, the encouraging thought of Sandy Lyle and Bernhard Langer joining the fray, as they will today meet Watson and Nakajima, respectively, but there is little doubt that, on paper, the contest between Woosnam and Ballesteros is the most attractive.

Mostly certainly Woosnam enhanced his reputation as a player with the utmost determination as he proceeded to change the course of his match with a marvellous run in the afternoon. He came from three holes down in front against Sindelar in a matter of seven holes.

What must first be pointed out is the sporting manner in which this match unfolded, both on and off the fairways, with Woosnam and Sindelar exchanging jokes from the moment they boomed their first mighty drives as the early morning mist began to clear.

Woosnam set the standards when he pointed to the crowd.

as George Hammond, the starter, announced, Sindelar, and indicated that they should give a rousing welcome to a player who was making his first appearance in this country.

Sindelar soon earned the respect of the spectators, and Woosnam for that matter, by hitting huge drives of 300 yards at the third and fourth holes on the way to moving three up. Yet Sindelar, too, was impressed with the manner in which Woosnam, all 5ft 5in of him, struck his drives with such accuracy that the American's advantage from the tee was not quite what he expected. He turned to Woosnam and said: "In America 99 per cent of the players would not be getting near me."

It was Woosnam's turn to switch on the magic with a sequence of five birdies in seven holes from the eighth as he clawed his way back to all square. But he hooked his drive on the 15th then lost the 18th, so he went to lunch two down.

Sindelar, who has won twice on the US circuit this season, seemed very much in control as he won the fourth (22nd) in the afternoon with a birdie four. But his lead eroded quickly as Woosnam once again launched an astonishing run in which he gathered five birdies and an eagle before the match ended on the 16th (34th) green. "I don't feel too bad about losing," Sindelar said. "I played well until I made a few mistakes late in the match at which point I started to get everything going right. The combination of that happening was too much for me. But I've had a lot of fun. I've enjoyed your Florida weather and I'll be back."

For Woosnam it will be back to business as normal as he attempts to dethrone Ballesteros, who is trying to win the title for the fourth time in five years.



Excitement: Woosnam reacts to a missed putt yesterday at Wentworth (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Woosnam said: "Joey and I laughed and joked our way round today. It's unlikely to be quite like that with Seve, because that's not his style, but I aim to make it interesting even if he goes into the match as the favourite."

Rodney Foster is to chair the selection committee which will choose amateur golf teams representing Britain and Ireland, the Royal and Ancient announced yesterday. Other members of the committee are Dr P. Davidson (England), J. B. Carr (Ireland), M. Lygate (Scotland) and J. R. Jones (Wales).

JUDO

Sadness for Saito in eight seconds

From Philip Nicksan, Seoul

A swiftly executed trick technique interrupted Japan's 15-years dominance of the heavyweight categories when Hitoshi Saito was forced to retire after eight seconds of the heavyweight final at the world championships here yesterday. Saito, aged 24, the Olympic champion, fully expected to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor, Yasuhiro Yamashita, in completing the world championship double of winning both the open and heavyweight categories.

Although he struggled to find form in his early contests against Mohammed Rashwan, of Egypt, the Olympic silver medal winner, and Henry Stohr, of East Germany, he catapulted the Russian champion, Grigory Verichev, to the top of the class with a classic inner thigh throw for ippon. And in the final against the Olympic bronze medal winner, Yong Chul Cho, he stepped out confidently to take charge. But Cho grasped Saito's outstretched leg, tripped him, and under his left arm, and twisted into a fierce armlock.

Clearly a practiced move, prepared for Saito himself, it left the Japanese no room to manoeuvre. He could only attempt to jerk the arm free and in doing so injured himself even further. When he tried to continue, Saito to found himself unable to use his left arm and had no option but to retire.

He mounted the silver medal platform with tears rolling down his face and it is unlikely he will recover to contest the open weight competition on Sunday.

Cho's victory gave a different perspective to the earlier part of Britain's main hope for the day, Elvis Gordon. The Wolverhampton competitor had started well withan

JUDO

Sadness for Saito in eight seconds

From Philip Nicksan, Seoul

exciting win over the Yugoslav, Dragan Kusumic, throwing him and then holding him down for the required 30 seconds.

And for most of the fight against Cho, his second opponent, Gordon looked as if he was able to match his attack, though the contest was a slow and laborious affair. Cho eventually emerged the winner by a small knockdown score gained by a deft ankle technique, but it looked as if the result could have gone either way.

Gordon's appearance in the ring was brief, he was out of the match on the first throw against Dimar Zaprionov, of Bulgaria, who felled all his best attacks and slipped past the British defences for a rolling throw and hold down.

Dennis Stewart, the light heavyweight making his first international appearance for Britain, put up a spirited performance against Robert Cho, of the 1980 Olympic champion, losing only a five-point throw.

Just how good newcomers can be seen later in the day when Hitoshi Saito, a Japanese light heavyweight, being seen on the international mat for the first time, threw the extremely capable Korean Olympic champion, Hyung Joo Hwa, for full point in the last seconds of the final.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT (under 81kg) First round: Saito (Jpn) 10-0 vs Cho (Kor). Second round: Saito (Jpn) 10-0 vs Cho (Kor). Final: Saito (Jpn) 10-0 vs Cho (Kor).

FOOTBALL: STRONG WELSH LOBBY FOR PART-TIME MANAGER

Stainrod the man to fill Villa Park

Simon Stainrod, who scored four goals in his first appearance for Aston Villa in their 4-1 win at Exeter City in the Milk Cup on Wednesday, could be the man to bring back the club's missing supporters, starting with tomorrow's home game against Everton.

The £30,000 newcomer from Sheffield Wednesday is desperately needed as a crowd-puller, since Villa's first four home games averaged 13,704, a third down on this time last year.

Graham Turner, Villa manager, said: "If we don't get 25,000 for the Everton game, then it will be very difficult in any circumstances to have a very attractive fixture."

Everton, who scrambled a 3-2 win against Bournemouth in their tie after being 2-0 down in 11 minutes, were one of several first division clubs to gain impressive results against lower division sides, since Villa's first four home games averaged 13,704, a third down on this time last year.

Hereford United held Aston 0-0, Bournemouth drew with Sheffield Wednesday and Millwall even missed a penalty in their goalless draw with Southampton.

Watford's new deal

Watford have secured a £300,000 sponsorship deal with the German-based adhesive manufacturers, Solvite. The club's previous sponsors were Ipeco but the three-year deal expired during the summer.

WORLD CUP SCORES AND TABLES

Forecast of merger for Gola sides

Non League Football by Paul Newman

Jim Thompson, chairman of the Gola League, believes that professional football's problems will soon lead to a merger between clubs and those in the fourth division.

"We have always said that most clubs in the fourth division have far more in common with those in the Manchester United and Liverpool's," he said. "Circumstances are now forcing the Football League to recognize the fact. With attendances dropping, they must realize they can't go on supporting four divisions for much longer."

"We believe that mid-level football, consisting of clubs from the Gola League and the fourth division, should be controlled by its own body, separate from the Football League. The new league would be regionalized on a north and south basis and part-time players would be used. Clubs would be automatically promoted into the third division only if their facilities were suitable."

Mr Thompson pointed out that similar views were expressed in *The Times* last week by Sir Norman Chester, who has twice led investigations into the state of the game.

"The PFA are well aware that there is no future for professional football in the fourth division, Mr Thompson added.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Group two	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Germany	6	5	1	0	20	8	15
Sweden	6	3	1	2	11	7	7
Portugal	6	2	1	3	10	9	5
Czechoslovakia	6	2	1	3	7	9	5
Malta	6	0	1	5	3	21	1

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Group three	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	6	3	3	0	16	2	9
Poland	6	3	2	1	12	8	8
France	6	3	1	2	12	8	7
Spain	6	3	1	2	7	7	7
Turkey	6	2	1	3	7	9	5

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Group four	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bulgaria	7	5	1	1	13	3	11
Yugoslavia	7	3	2	2	11	8	8
France	7	3	1	3	12	7	7
East Germany	7	3	0	4	12	7	6
Luxembourg	7	3	0	4	7	21	6

WORLD CUP SCORES AND TABLES

Cup exit may cost England his job

Mike England's managerial future is in doubt now that Wales are out of the World Cup. Ireland's 2-1 defeat by Spain in Seville on Wednesday night condemned the likes of Ian Rush and Mark Hughes to watching the action from Mexico next summer on their television screens.

"It would have been a miracle had Iceland managed a draw, but they really gave Spain a run for their money," England, whose contract with the Welsh FA expires next summer, said. "It's the second World Cup running we have gone out on goal difference."

The recent group seven qualifying match against Scotland in Cardiff, which saw the financial gloom hanging over Wales but there is a strong lobby within the Welsh FA Council which favours reverting to a part-time manager.

England has a chance to show their capabilities against opposition bound for Mexico when they play Hungary in Cardiff on October 16, but there is bound to be a sense of anti-climax.

Spain's victory, after they had inflicted 1-0, ensured their place in the finals while leaving Scotland needing to win a play-off against the winners of the Oceania group, at the moment led by Israel, to reach Mexico.

Bulgaria and West Germany booked their passages along with Spain when they survived potentially hazardous assignments, bringing to 11 the number of nations who have been placed on the 1986 guest list. The others are Mexico, Italy, the holders, Uruguay, Hungary, Brazil, Argentina, Poland, and Canada.

WORLD CUP SCORES AND TABLES

Group two	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Germany	6	5	1	0	20	8	15
Sweden	6	3	1	2	11	7	7
Portugal	6	2	1	3	10	9	5
Czechoslovakia	6	2	1	3	7	9	5
Malta	6	0	1	5	3	21	1

WORLD CUP SCORES AND TABLES

Group three	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	6	3	3	0	16	2	9
Poland	6	3	2	1	12	8	8
France	6	3	1	2	12	8	7
Spain	6	3	1	2	7	7	7
Turkey	6	2	1	3	7	9	5

WORLD CUP SCORES AND TABLES

Group four	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bulgaria	7	5	1	1	13	3	11
Yugoslavia	7	3	2	2	11	8	8
France	7	3	1	3	12	7	7
East Germany	7	3	0	4	12	7	6
Luxembourg	7	3	0	4	7	21	6

TENNIS

Louis takes away her own breath to blow Durie awry

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Two women called Jo played tennis together for more than 20 years in the Refuge Assurance national championships at Telford yesterday. Jo Durie was supposed to win, because she held the title and has been Britain's No. 1 for three years. But she could not play as well as Jo Louis and was beaten 7-5, 6-7, 6-3. Miss Louis had two match points at 5-1 in the third set but, as she confessed later, felt "a bit shaky" and thought there must be something wrong with the scoreboard.

Miss Louis, aged 18, lives at Exmouth. For the past 18 months she has spent a lot of time at Wimbledon, London, where she and Miss Durie are both coached by Alan Jones. Miss Louis reckons Jones has improved her service and her backhand. Obviously he must be doing something right.

Another of his changes is Jane Wood, aged 17, who also confounded the rankings yesterday. Miss Wood was too good for Sally Reeves, who scuttles about like a clockwork toy but lacks Miss Wood's all-round strength.

Miss Louis will play Miss Wood in one of today's quarter-finals, which means that the forcefully fast-talking Jones must have another winner - and another loser. Perhaps he has done all he can for Miss Durie, who reached the semi-finals of the French and the United States championships in 1983 but has since become careworn and confused. Jones asserts that she has a split personality. Miss Durie certainly gives the impression that she believes her form (she is her 1983 form) is her true form. It is not.

Miss Durie, almost a foot taller than Miss Louis, was a break up in the first set and should have won the second more easily than she did. But her game has lost the natural fluency it had two years ago when she briefly established the reputation that she has been unable to consolidate. She may never be as good a player as she was, but should be a better player than she is.

Yesterday Miss Louis (known as six lumps) because she seems to be unbeatable) played a better match. It was as simple as that.

When Belinda Borneo was two years old, Virginia Wade was Britain's number one. Yesterday Miss Wade beat Miss Borneo 2-6, 6-3, a score that, for different reasons reflected credit on both of them. Several of the youngsters in action yesterday knew how to play tennis but had much to learn about the strategy and tactics that win matches.

Austen Brice, aged 17, is acquiring the knack of beating supposedly better players, but two of the men's quarter-finals, Colin Dowdell v Buster Mottram and Robin Drysdale v Johnathan Smith, will be restricted to players with at least 30 birthdays behind them. That never happened to the generation in between?

WOMEN'S SINGLES Third round: A. Hobbs bt J. Rice, 6-1, 6-2; S. Gomer bt J. Tison, 6-2, 6-2; M. B. Simpson, 2-6, 6-3, 7-5; V. Wade bt S. Dowdell, 6-1, 6-3; J. Louis bt J. Durie, 7-5, 6-7, 6-3; A. Croft bt L. Grace, 6-0, 6-2; J. Wood bt S. Reeves, 7-4, 7-6; A. Brown bt L. Langstaff, 6-4, 7-6.

Great Britain have been drawn against Argentina in the first round of the Federation Cup, the women's world team championship, which will be held in Nagoya, Japan, from October 6 to 13. Jo Durie, Annabel Croft, Anne Hobbs and Sara Gomer have been chosen to represent Britain in the tournament.

The Argentinians are likely to include Gabriela Sabatini, their outstanding 15-year-old. Britain's team manager, Sue Mappin, said: "On a comment, I am sure we are capable of winning this match."

ICE SKATING

Jackson creeps up on the leader

By John Hennessy

Susan Jackson, the British figure-skating champion, again stole the show at the St Ivel Ice International at Richmond on Wednesday night. With a flowing free-skating performance she beat Debi Thomas, of the United States, and the long programme to move up to second place overall behind the American.

Joanne Conway, at 14, six years junior to Miss Jackson, completed a highly satisfactory British performance by taking third place both in the free skating and in the overall programme ahead of Cynthia Coll, an experienced Canadian. This was a heartening omen both for herself and those who fear for the debilitated state of British skating.

Miss Jackson, for her part, must rue her disappointing compulsory figures on Tuesday which left her in fifth place with too high a mountain to climb, but by winning both the short programme and the long programme, she has regained the lead. She later held her triple Salchow and became the only skater of the night to achieve two successful triple jumps.

Her only flaw was a two-footed double toe-loop combination with a toe-loop, but a third double axel right at the end of her programme belatedly both courage and stamina. Her routine, for the moment, has its own messages and she will now go back to Colorado to prepare something stronger for the British championship in November in collaboration with Carlo and Christa Passi, who will be remembered as bringing John Curry and Robin Cousins to the pitch of Olympic perfection.

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Miss Conway had gone first of the four skaters who mattered and one feared for her as she tried unsuccessfully to master the triple toe loop. She was up, yet as soon as the business began she landed a beautiful double axel and then, just as surely, that elusive triple toe loop. She later held her triple Salchow and became the only skater of the night to achieve two successful triple jumps.

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ICE SKATING

Jackson creeps up on the leader

By John Hennessy

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Joanne Conway, at 14, six years junior to Miss Jackson, completed a highly satisfactory British performance by taking third place both in the free skating and in the overall programme ahead of Cynthia Coll, an experienced Canadian. This was a heartening omen both for herself and those who fear for the debilitated state of British skating.

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